

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LVI.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 25TH OCTOBER, 1902.

No. 17

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BIRTHS.

On the 9th October, at Shanghai, the wife of F. S. SOUZA, of Kobe, Japan, of a son.
On the 12th October, at 5, Park Lane, Shanghai, the wife of JAMES H. ARNOTT, of a son.
On the 12th October, the wife of Captain ALAN BOIRAGON, Captain-Superintendent, Shanghai Municipal Police, of a son.
On the 14th October, at 57, Szechuen Road, Shanghai, the wife of E. HEINSEN, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 11th October, at H.I.G.M.'s Consulate, and afterwards at the Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. C. J. F. Symons, OSCAR HEINRICH, youngest son of OTTO ANZ, of Tsingtau, to GRACE LILIE, youngest daughter of the late Samuel PARKHILL, Chief Tide-surveyor and Harbour Master, I.M.C., Chefoo.
On the 15th October, at 26, North Soochow Road, Shanghai, by the Rev. John R. Hykes, D.D., in the presence of the Hon. John Goodnow, U.S. Consul-General, CARL LUDWIG SEITZ, only son of the late C. S. SEITZ, of Chinkiang, to KATHERINE MARGUERITE GOEBBELS, youngest daughter of the late HENRY N. GOEBBELS, of New York City, U.S.A.
At the Union Church, by the Rev. H. C. Hickling, JAMES LOCHHEAD to ALICE H. DURANT, both of Hongkong.

DEATH.

On the 18th October, at 37B, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, Mrs. M. DIETRICH, wife of M. DIETRICH, aged 48 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 26th September arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Massilia*, on the 24th October (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The opening of the railway from Harbin to Vladivostok has been postponed for one year.

Russia's naval budget for 1903 amounts to £11,500,000, which includes £451,550 for construction work at Port Arthur and £350,000 for enlarging Vladivostok harbour.

The *Times* Odessa correspondent says that the negotiations between Russia and Japan with a view to the establishment of extensive trading relations are nearly concluded, each side making concessions in favour of staple products.

The *Daily Mail's* Bucharest correspondent positively states that Russia has offered to Turkey the revival of the Unkiar-Skelessi treaty. The correspondent adds that diplomats attribute the recrudescence of Russian activity in the Near East to the Anglo-Japanese treaty, which nullifies Russian expansion in the Far East.

The London *Times* of the 23rd inst. asserts that Russia's "evacuation" of Manchuria simply means the concentration of the Russian army along the Manchurian railway, which commands every city and road of importance in the province. Russia thus acquires Manchuria, by a judicious admixture of diplomacy of finance. The *Times* concludes by advising the establishment of a Consul-General at Moukden to watch British treaty rights. The *Times* correspondent at Peking, describing a journey through Manchuria, testifies to the fact of the country being absolutely dominated by Russia, which country has built up a population in thriving cities along the whole length of the railway. Russia is faithfully executing her promises of evacuation, but this only means the withdrawal of garrisons from the cities to huge barracks outside.

The Chinese Emperor held a reception on the 18th inst. All the members of the diplomatic body were present with the exception of Sir Ernest Satow, British Minister, who declined all social intercourse with the Court on account of the miscarriage of justice in the case of murdered missionaries in the province of Hunan. In addition to this, H.M.S.S. *Britomart Phoenix*, *Rosa* and *Mutine* have been ordered to Hankow, where the British Consul has demanded the execution of the military official directly responsible for the murder and the adequate punishment of other officials. Our London correspondent informs us that the *Standard* comments with approval on Sir Ernest Satow's vigorous defence of British interests in connection with the Chenchoufu murders, and says that a vital question of principle is involved in the punishment of the Chenchoufu mandarins. Although another quarrel with the Chinese Government would be regrettable, Sir Ernest Satow is bound to exact the fullest reparation for the crime and the insulting levity with which that crime has been treated.

The opening of the Hanoi Exposition has been postponed until the 16th November.

The Senior Consul at Shanghai, Mr. John Goodnow, has received a telegram from the *doyen* of the diplomatic body at Peking stating that the Wai Wu-Pu says that the Specific Tariff will be put into force on the 31st instant.

The duty on Chinese products arriving at Vladivostok port, excepting rice and tea, was abolished on the 14th inst. It is stated that this step is only shortly preliminary to the conversion of Vladivostok into a free port for general merchandise. Trade has suffered seriously by the tariff discriminations against this port. Direct importations have paid heavy penalties because of free entry at Port Arthur and the impossibility of ridding the Amur and Manchurian zones of smugglers.

Sir Ernest Satow, is protesting against the German stipulations for the evacuation of Shanghai, which Prince Ching accepted without consulting other Powers. The *Nord-deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, in an article on the evacuation of Shanghai, states that Germany proposed to China that she bind herself not to concede to any Power on the Yangtze any military or special advantages infringing the principle of the Open Door, and that China expressed her willingness to accept.

We learn that H. E. Senhor Conselheiro Castello Branco, the Portuguese Minister on a special mission to China, and his suite are passengers by the H. A. L. steamer *Hamburg*, which is expected to pass through here on the 28th instant. H. E. is homeward bound, having already completed his mission in the Far East, as already stated by us. We understand that the Leal Senado of Macao invited H. E. to pay a visit to Macao, so that they can give him a reception, and thank him on behalf of the Macao people for what he has done for the benefit of the Holy City, but that he finds it impossible to accept.

Bangkok papers profess satisfaction at the new Franco-Siamese treaty. The *Siam Observer* says:—The treaty is likely to disappoint the French extremists. It may not give unmitigated satisfaction from the Siamese point of view, but, if it brings about security and good relationships between France and Siam, the result will be worth the price. It is now the turn of the British Government to settle the questions which have been stirred up from Singapore in the Malay States. We shall be surprised if this British settlement is not at least as generous as the French. At any rate it will involve no cession of Siamese territory.

L'Echo de Chine has received news by wire from Peking that the Imperial decree dated the 13th of October ratifies the contracts made between H.E. Sheng Kung-pao, Director-General of the Imperial Chinese Railways, and the Russo-Chinese Bank, represented by Mr. C. R. Wehrung, its French director for China and Japan; the subject of the contracts is a 5 per cent. loan of 40,000,000 francs (£1,600,000), to be issued in Paris. The proceeds of the said loan, it appears, are to be devoted to the construction of an important railway line between Chengtingfu in Chihli and Taiyuanfu in Shansi, to be connected with the Hankow-Peking line. The *Echo* adds that this is the first affair of such importance to be arranged in China by a Frenchman.

PLAGUE PREVENTION FOR 1903.

(Daily Press, 20th October.)

The defeat, at Thursday's meeting of the Sanitary Board, of Mr. OSBORNE's resolution with regard to a general cleansing of the Colony during the coming winter, similar to that which was undertaken in the winter of 1901-02, leaves the public very much in doubt as to what form the campaign against plague in Hongkong is going to take in future. In spite of Mr. OSBORNE having the support of the Medical Officer of Health for the Colony, his proposal was defeated, the two Chinese members of the Board being joined by the Captain Superintendent of Police in their opposition. Dr. ATKINSON refrained from voting, though his speech showed that he did not look with favour upon another such cleansing campaign as marked the end of 1901. The only two experts on the Board, therefore, were divided in opinion as to the utility of the measures which were tried to check plague in 1902. The two Chinese members naturally voted against a continuance of operations which met with so little approval among their fellow-countrymen, while the head of the Police did not explain the reason for his attitude. It is impossible to regard the fate of the resolution as satisfactory. The argument of *post hoc, ergo propter hoc* is of course fallacious, but that of *post hoc, ergo non propter hoc* would be merely foolish. Everyone admits that we have no means of judging what effect the thorough disinfection of the city had upon the plague visitation of 1902. Hongkong was cleansed and the epidemic was much smaller this year. We are told that the cleansing was very expensive and that it is not to be repeated this year. We are not told what is to be done instead, in the way of plague-prevention. The President of the Sanitary Board suggested that that body should recommend that some temporary inspectors be engaged, whose duty it would be to visit the houses and ascertain the state of cleanliness or otherwise of these houses. If they are dirty, the Chinese should be given, say, a couple of weeks to undertake the work of cleaning them; then let the houses be revisited at the end of the fortnight, and if they are still dirty let the Board step in and undertake the work. Whether this suggestion is likely to be adopted, we cannot tell. All we know is that last year's disinfection programme is not to be repeated, on the advice of the Sanitary Board. In view of the approach of the season when plague usually begins to show itself, we trust that the Government will lose no time in informing the public what it is proposed to do in advance to meet an outbreak of plague in 1903. There can be no doubt whatever that the European residents, who certainly have some right to be considered, were much encouraged by the energy displayed in carrying out the scheme of disinfection which the Sanitary Board has just condemned. They do not, it is true, look with light hearts on the squandering of public money which is apparently admitted to have gone on in 1901-02. But, if it is accepted that similar measures can be carried out far more economically, then they will scarcely see the wisdom of dropping such measures altogether because they were wasteful last year. The opposition of the Chinese is a factor in the situation which cannot be overlooked, but Messrs. LAU CHU PAK and FUNG WA CHUN will find it hard to tell us what sanitary measures will not be opposed by the lower class, more ignorant Chinese. Inoculation, which has been tried this year in Formosa and is to

be tried in the Punjab in 1903, is considered almost hopeless here. What then do those who condemn the well meant efforts of 1901-02 in Hongkong propose that we should do, unless it is to adopt Dr. ATKINSON's scheme? It may also be asked how it is proposed to deal with the countless prosecutions because of dirty and insanitary houses which are bound to follow a voluntary system of cleansing.

THE BURMA-YUNNAN RAILWAY QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 23rd October.)

Among the papers read at the meeting of the British Association at Belfast last month was one by Captain C. H. D. RYDER, R.E., on the province of Yunnan. The greater part of this dealt with the physical features of the province and as such need not detain us here. But the point of chief interest in the paper to those concerned in the trade of China was when Captain RYDER related the result of the Yunnan Company's expedition to report on the feasibility of a railway line from Burma into China across the Yunnan frontier. Some two years ago the Yunnan Company fitted out this expedition and put at the head of it Major DAVIS. The Government of India attached Captain RYDER to it that he might survey and report on their behalf. The work of the expedition was accomplished successfully in the course of two seasons and the British Association learnt last month what was the conclusion arrived at. Briefly stated, it was that the mountainous country and the poor prospects of traffic forced the Company to abandon any idea of a railway. In a short time, said Captain RYDER, a railway would be completed, but it would be from Tonkin and not from Burma. This decision seems to be the death-blow to any British railway schemes connecting India with the Yangtze through Yunnan and Szechuen. The opinions of Messrs. COLBORNE BABER, J. W. JAMIESON, LITTON, and others, including the Viceroy of India, are thus borne out. BABER spoke once disparagingly of the idea of "improving the road from Burma to Yunnan-fu by piercing half a dozen Mont Cenis tunnels and erecting a few Menai bridges." Later critics, with less extravagance, have pronounced against the railway project, but there has always been a small party which has believed it possible without a very huge outlay. The report of the Yunnan Company's expedition has been awaited with interest, as it was felt that there was at least no prejudice against the scheme among those attached to the exploring party. Of course we have no details of the expedition's verdict, but the summary given to the British Association seems conclusive evidence on the side of those who think a Burma-Yunnan line unprofitable if not impossible. A mountainous country with poor prospects of traffic is not likely to attract British speculators, with their ardour already damped by Lord CURZON's speech to the Rangoon Chamber of Commerce last December. It is interesting, however, to read what the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Commissioner at Sze-mao wrote in January, and we will accordingly quote from the Sze-mao trade returns the following passage. Mr. GRANZELLA, the Acting Commissioner, says:—"Want of means of communication principally is what prevents Sze-mao from taking a greater share in the direct foreign trade, or extending its home one, in the way hoped for when it was first opened; yet the time may come when the projected railway lines, which are approach-

ing Southern and Western Yunnan from the Burma and Tonkin sides, will offer the Sze-mao trade a chance of development. The roads at present available are mostly in a bad state of repair, especially in steep ascents and descents where more needed, though numbers of good stone bridges, and two iron suspension ones, which span large rivers, show the importance of the traffic of these districts. It is pleasant to record, however, that a new iron suspension bridge is being built, and is expected to be finished in a year or so, to cross the Red River above Yüan-chiang-chou, which will put in communication a now secondary road running from Ta-lang to the roads leading to the provincial capital and also to Mengtszu. The new road will be much easier, and caravans will be able to avoid two high and difficult passes. The benefit of this work will be more appreciated by Sze-mao after the construction of the projected railway line from the Tonkin frontier to Yunnanfu, passing by Lin-an, three days journey nearer than Mengtszu."

Mr. Acting-Consul LITTON, when he wrote of the trade of Sze-mao and Mengtszu in 1899, stated that all the conditions necessary for a flourishing British commerce were conspicuous by their absence at Sze-mao, and Mr. GRANZELLA's figures seem to bear him out. The latter speaks of the railway approaching Yunnan from Burma; it seems that this line is unlikely now to go beyond the Salween ferry, so that it will not alter the situation much. We may take it that an effective check to British railway designs in Yunnan has been announced. Whether the idea is likely to be revived it is impossible to judge. France is pressing on into Yunnan surely if slowly, and in a few years' time we shall be faced with decided French predominance in that province if the restrictions on trade do not impel the Chinese still to favour the old water routes. The dream of the French Colonial expansionists does not stop at Yunnan-fu nor on the further borders of Yunnan; it extends into Szechuen and to the head-waters of the Yangtze. Time will show its chance of realisation, but it is at least physically possible of realisation. The one great argument, it seems to us, in favour of a Burma-Yunnan railway is that Yunnan leads into Szechuen and Szechuen to the Yangtze. If a railway is impossible (which Captain RYDER did not tell the British Association), then all such ideas must be dismissed. But if it is only very difficult and not tempting because of the poor traffic-prospects in Yunnan it might still be necessary to reconsider the scheme because of its bearing on the question of the Yangtze trade. There is also to be borne in mind the matter of a railway from India to Hongkong, which, dreamlike as it may sound now, must not be dismissed as a dream merely because of the scoffings of those who no doubt scoffed at the Trans-Siberian and all other great railway lines—since become accomplished facts.

The P. & T. Times complains strongly of the insufficient policing of the British municipal settlement at Tientsin. On the 9th inst. a drunken German soldier with a drawn bayonet very nearly committed murder twice. The Times says:—"The Municipal Council has by means of civil police armed with truncheons, to keep order in a garrison town where the elements of discord are infinitely enhanced by diverse nationality. The lesson of this special case is that a civilian to protect his life from a drunken rowdy has in a British Concession to carry a revolver. We need not tell our readers that this lesson is abominable, and that the state of affairs is certain to issue in tragedy."

THE EVACUATION OF SHANGHAI.

(Daily Press, 24th October.)

In its issue of Saturday last our Shanghai German contemporary *Der Ostasiatische Lloyd* said that no further information in connection with the reported approaching evacuation of Shanghai by the foreign troops had been received during that week, but so far as could be ascertained, the situation remained unchanged since the withdrawal of the garrisons was first mentioned. The implication of this statement is that the arrangement made with the late Viceroy LIU KUNG-YI, that the foreign garrison shall be withdrawn from Shanghai on the 1st proximo, stands good. It is evident, however, from REUTER's telegrams published in our issue of to-day, that this is not a correct representation of the case. According to the *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, Germany "proposed to China that she bind herself not to concede to any Power on the Yangtze any military or special advantages infringing the principle of the Open Door," and that China expressed her willingness to accept this. Indeed, according to the first of the two REUTER's telegrams, Prince CHING accepted the conditions without consulting the other Powers interested. Whether in the guarantee about the Open Door we have the whole of the "German stipulations," against which Sir ERNEST SATOW has protested, it is impossible to say as yet. The principle of the matter remains the same, however, in any case, for it is evident that the Powers who jointly garrisoned Shanghai in 1900 have no right to make separate conditions with China before withdrawing their troops. We fail to understand the attitude of the German Government all through in connection with the evacuation of Shanghai. Months ago the other Powers represented in the garrison were willing, even anxious, to send away their men. Germany held back, without giving any definite reason, and in spite of official statements that she did not wish to delay the evacuation. Finally, last month an agreement seems to have been reached between all the Powers concerned and the Chinese Viceroy that the European forces should be sent away from Shanghai on the 1st November. No talk of conditions was then mentioned. Hardly, however, had H. E. LIU KUNG-YI died before the report began to circulate that the evacuation would not take place on the appointed date. The statement was definitely telegraphed to us by our Shanghai correspondent on the 12th instant. REUTER's despatches seem to explain, to a certain extent, the reason for the delay, but they do not give any clue to Germany's action. We should be loth to accuse Germany of going behind her allies at the present moment or of intentionally putting obstacles in the way of the withdrawal of the unnecessary garrison from Shanghai, and should prefer to think that there is some key to the puzzle which will be discovered soon. Apart from the question of loyalty between the Powers, which as we say we cannot believe that the Germans wish to betray, it might also be asked what is the reason for raising once again the matter of the Open Door on the Yangtze River. Has the Anglo-German Agreement, mis-called by some German politicians the "Yangtze Agreement," been forgotten by our allies? If it is only desired that China shall recognise afresh the equality of trade on the Yangtze, why is the guarantee to be made to Germany alone? An honest negotiation does not require to be carried on in a hole-and-corner manner. Decidedly the explanation of the Shanghai evacuation difficulty is wanting.

JAPAN AND THE FUTURE OF BUDDHISM.

(Daily Press, 21st October.)

One of the most remarkable features about the recent internal history of Japan has been the revival of Buddhism. Japan has not hitherto been the country whose name has been the most associated with this creed, which the late Professor MAX MULLER declared to be one of the three great missionary religions of the world. Europeans who have been attracted by Buddhism have as a rule come in contact with the doctrine in its purer form in Burma and Siam. Indeed, it is only lately that we have been realising of the presence of some six or seven European converts living at present in Burma, and one of the most remarkable books in English which deals with the religion of Buddha is the work of a British official in the Burmese Civil Service; we refer to Mr. H. FIELDING's *The Soul of a People*. But those who embraced Buddhism or have been brought into a state of sympathy with its teaching in Indo-China have done so as the result not of proselytising by natives but of their own reading and learning. Their environment has not directly caused their conversion. They do not in fact differ much in the manner of their change from those to whom Buddhism has appealed most strongly in Europe itself. That there are such people as European Buddhists is perchance not a familiar fact to most. An interesting little book just translated into English, under the title of *A German Buddhist*, may enlighten these. THEODOR SCHULTZE, the subject of that sketch, was perhaps not a Buddhist as the term is understood in Buddhist countries, but his great object was to give the world the real nucleus of the Buddhist system, as he said himself. His writings have caused in Germany itself a controversy of a bitter kind. We do not propose to enter into any details of it here. We only mention SCHULTZE as the foremost example of an avowed Buddhist in Europe. The ordinary man, if told of a Buddhist propaganda, would probably scoff at the idea. Nevertheless, were he to study the question, he would be compelled to admit that the idea is not in itself impossible. The fact is that the study of Buddhism has hitherto been confined to so few that it may be said to be practically untouched. This is almost as true of the East as of the West. Japan, as we have said, is beginning to manifest a great revival in Buddhist culture. This fact could be gathered even from the English Press alone in Japan during the past few years. The Japanese Government, though by no means committed to the upholding of Buddhism, finds it impossible to stand aloof. It has therefore shown considerable interest in a Japanese expedition, composed of scholars of repute, now in search of the Buddhist remains in Central Asia. The head of the mission is Count OTANI, whose brother-in-law is the Crown Prince of Japan, and very important discoveries are anticipated from its labours. It is plain that Japan is anxious to study early Buddhism in a scientific manner. The significance of such a phenomenon might easily be underrated. Japan, partly of intention and partly by force of circumstances, has taken on herself the rôle of interpreter between the East and West. Among those points on which an understanding is above all desirable between the two great divisions of the world that of religion, in the widest sense of the word, is perhaps the chief. Japan has not hitherto been the best qualified exponent of the greatest of Oriental religions. She has,

however, awoken to the fact that she is the only possible exponent and she has begun to set herself to the task of fitting herself for the mission. What will come of it we would not care to undertake to say, even if we had the qualifications; but that it must have a notable influence in the philosophical history of the world it is at least safe to prophecy.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE HUNAN MURDERS.

(Daily Press, 22nd October.)

In the absence of definite information it is impossible to tell the precise reason for the very strong action of the British Government in the matter of the Hunan murders, apart from the indication in our London telegram published to-day. But as Sir ERNEST SATOW, His Majesty's Minister at Peking, has broken off all social intercourse with the Chinese Court and refused to attend the Chinese Emperor's reception on the 18th instant, while H.M.SS. *Britomart*, *Mutine*, *Phoenix*, and *Rosario* have been ordered to Hankow, it is quite evident that the Chinese authorities have signally failed to make the promised reparation for the atrocious killing of Messrs. BRUCE and LEWIS. All the actual perpetrators of the murder, we were told the other day, have been executed—though unfortunately past experience of Chinese justice does not reassure us on this point—but this is not the only step, of course, necessary to atone for so brutal a crime. Our London telegram speaks of the insulting levity of the Chinese officials. We have never been advocates of the "gunboat policy," as it has been called, in missionary matters; but it is impossible to dispute the contention that British subjects' lives in China must be rendered safe and that a callous attitude on the part of the responsible authorities cannot be tolerated in the interests of international relations between China and the West. No one acquainted with British policy in China during recent years will suspect Great Britain of undue strictness toward Chinese errors and acts of wrong. It is safe therefore to conclude that the conduct of the native officials with respect to reparation for the murders at Chenchow has been very bad indeed. Sir ERNEST SATOW is a man with more courage of his opinions than most recent British Ministers at Peking, but he would never have taken the step he has without the gravest cause. It is sincerely to be hoped that he will receive the full support of the home Government in this affair.

HONGKONG'S ADDRESSES TO THE KING.

HIS MAJESTY'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

The following despatch from the the Secretary of State for the Colonies is published in the *Gazette*:—

Downing Street,

11th September, 1902.

Sir.—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 312 of the 15th of July last, and of the addresses to His Majesty there referred to, from the General Community, the Chinese Community, the Maonic Lodges and the Roman Catholics of Hongkong.

2. I have had the honour to lay these addresses before His Majesty who has been pleased to express his high appreciation of the loyalty of the inhabitants of his Colony of Hongkong, and to command that a suitable acknowledgment may be conveyed to the persons who signed the addresses.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor Sir H. A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.,

&c., &c., &c.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 20th inst. in the Council Chamber.

Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, Sir HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.

Hon. Colonel L. F. BROWN, R.E. (Senior Officer Commanding the Garrison).

Hon. F. H. MAY (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. F. W. CLARK (Medical Officer of Health).

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Hon. C. S. SHARP.

Hon. C. W. DICKSON.

Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Hon. R. SHEWAN.

Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Acting Clerk of Councils).

COMMITTEES.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I find, gentlemen, that inadvertently, in naming the various Committees, I removed from the Law Committee a gentleman who for several years has been on it—the Hon. Wei A Yuk. I suggest to keep him on the Law Committee and ask Mr. Playfair to take his place on the Public Works Committee, if he has no objections.

Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR—Not at all, sir. I am only here for a short time anyway.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 13), and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

PAPERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table a return of Supplementary Votes taken to date during the current year.

THE TRAMWAY ORDINANCE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Sir, in the absence of the Hon. Attorney-General, I beg to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Tramway Ordinance, No. 10 of 1902. The object of the Ordinance is to afford protection to telegraph cables and lines owned by the Admiralty and War Departments as well as to such as may be owned by the Colonial Government.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council then went into committee on the Bill, and, there being no amendments, it was, when the Council resumed, read a third time and passed, on the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the COLONIAL TREASURER.

THE ESTIMATES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Your Excellency has already explained to the Council that the ordinary expenditure will exceed the ordinary revenue by \$131,206, and that the excess of public works extraordinary over land sales will bring the deficit up to \$712,306. It is satisfactory to note, however, that the revenue, exclusive of land sales, is estimated to exceed the revised estimates of 1902 by \$260,564. The estimated expenditure, however, for 1903, exclusive of public works extraordinary, exceeds the estimated expenditure for 1902 by \$950,624.80. This large excess is made up as follows:—

Charge on account of public debt	\$27,585.00
Pensions	20,400.00
Personal emoluments—	\$ c.
Exchange compensation	461,373.80*
Stipulated increments and increases to salaries	15,087.07
Increase due to salaries being fixed in sterling, and to fall in exchange	52,101.12
New appointments \$46,018.34	
do. (plague staff) 51,393.00	
do. (Vic. hospital) 7,908.00	
do. (Bact. dept.) 11,631.31	
Allowances	4,162.50
Items transferred from miscellaneous services	5,688.00
	655,363.14
Other charges—	
General	81,567.60
Plague account	142,040.00

Chinese high school and other improvements in educational system	20,000.00
Victoria hospital	27,000.00
Bacteriological Department	7,760.00
	54,760.00
Ecclesiastical	200.00
Military expenditure A	95,466.00
Public works, recurrent, chargeable to general revenue	114,000.00
Public works, recurrent, chargeable to water account	51,000.00

Total increase \$1,242,981.74
Deduct decrease 192,356.94

Net increase \$950,624.80

* \$120,000 provided for in 1902 estimates. Nett increase, \$341,373.80.

With regard to the item "exchange compensation," it is necessary to explain that the large sum mentioned is due (1) to the grant of exchange compensation on the whole of the salary instead of half at the beginning of this year, (2) to fall in exchange, and (3) to the fact that the exchange compensation due to each officer now appears on the estimates, whereas formerly only such sum was shown as was estimated to be sufficient to pay the exchange compensation due to officers in the Colony, the loss in exchange in paying the salaries of officers on leave in gold being debited at the end of the year to loss in exchange. The actual amount which will be paid this year in the Colony in exchange compensation is estimated at \$334,000. The actual increase therefore is only \$127,373.80. With regard to the items in the estimates which figure as "sterling salaries," I would beg leave to offer the following remarks. The suggestion to fix salaries in sterling emanated with the Governor of Singapore, the object being to grant an increase of salaries while at the same time effecting a compensating saving in leave pay and pensions, which for officers appointed prior to July, 1897, are fixed at 4s. and 3s. 8d. to the dollar, and for officers appointed subsequent to that date at 3s. to the dollar. As the Secretary of State desires as far as possible to treat Hongkong as if it were one Service with the Civil Service in the Straits Settlements, the suggestion was referred to this Government, but, as was natural in dealing with such a matter, confidentially. While the matter was still under consideration, the grant of exchange compensation on the whole instead of half the salary of those officers entitled to it was made, with the concurrence of the Unofficial Members of Council. That was at the end of December last. The effect of such grant was that it placed officers in receipt of exchange compensation on a sterling basis as regards their salaries. The Secretary of State then adjusted the sterling salary scheme, which was laid on the table of Council at the first opportunity after its receipt in the Colony. The effect of the scheme will be that ultimately, when all officers come under it, a slight saving will be effected in salaries. The aggregate of the maximum of salaries published in the scheme is £54,153, against £55,498 for the dollar salaries of the same officers, converted into sterling at 3s., the rate at which exchange compensation is drawn. Whether there will be a saving in pension and leave pay depends on whether the officers who retain the privilege of 4s. and 3s. 8d. join the scheme; ultimately, as these officers die off, there will be a saving. There will be no increase in pensions where there is no increase in salary, for the sterling pension on a dollar salary at 3s. will be found to be the same rate as the sterling pensions on a sterling salary of equivalent value. With these few remarks, I beg to move the second reading of the Bill, and when the Bill has been read I will move that it be referred to the Finance Committee, when any further explanations or information that may be desired will be given.

Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR—I should like, sir, to take exception to the principle on which the Colonial accounts are based. For years past what may be called capital expenditure—that is to say, re-productive expenditure—has been debited to revenue, making this present generation pay for future generations. Similarly with land sales, they have been credited to income, and some years ago they were very heavy. The proceeds of these sales, instead of being credited to outstanding indebtedness and to directly pay for capital expenditure, were, as

I say, credited to income; and these accounts are consequently misleading, because in one year you may have large land sales and at the end of that year people will think the Colony's income is booming while it may not be so, and the ordinary income may be perfectly normal. In the same way with regard to capital expenditure, in one year there may be very large items—items for water-works, or expensive fancy sites for Government offices—and all these swell the expenditure, whereas the ordinary expenditure may be perfectly normal. In fact the position is a little chaotic. You may be likely to starve for necessities in the midst of plenty. That is the reason why I would ask the Government if they would not alter the accounts so as to keep the ordinary expenditure separate from what I have called—it may be a misnomer—capital expenditure and income. There are many cases, I am sure, in which requisitions have been declined on this score—that there was no money. I am not one of those who think that the Colony is at all bankrupt, but if you have a heavy capital expenditure in one year it makes people think that the Colony is verging on bankruptcy when it may not be so. I think if I ask that a return be made for the last ten years showing the difference between extraordinary and ordinary expenditure and income, it will support my argument.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—Any one who understands the accounts will see that the ordinary is kept apart from the extraordinary income, and so with the expenditure. Land sales are put down by themselves. It is very easily seen how much is ordinary and how much extraordinary revenue and expenditure in any one year. As regards the return the Hon. Mr. Playfair asks for, I may say, sir, one has been already prepared and it will show all the items so that people reading them can easily understand them.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—I agree with Hon. Mr. Playfair that revenue derived from land sales should be capitalised, because you are selling the future. It is not really revenue upon which you can count every year. With regard to the other points in the estimates, I believe that I shall be in order, sir, in criticising the revenue as well as the expenditure side?

HIS EXCELLENCY—Certainly.

Hon. Mr. SHEWAN, resuming, said—Then there is a suggestion I should like to make, and it is with reference to the report which was made by the Commission on Chair-coolies and Ricksha-coolies. If I am right, I understand the chair-coolies pay a fee of only \$2 per annum whereas ricksha-coolies pay \$72 per annum. I would suggest that some revenue might be derived from increasing the fee of chair-coolies. The Commission reported—"The evidence also shows that the coolie will pay a considerable sum for the goodwill of a public ricksha." Now, if in addition to paying \$72 per annum he will pay a considerable sum for the goodwill of a ricksha, it seems to me that the chair-coolie also should pay a considerable sum for his licence without regard to the goodwill. It was stated in evidence that a chair-coolie could make from \$60 to \$80 a month, and one coolie, I believe, admitted that over and above his living expenses he made a profit of \$10 a month. If that is so, I quite see why no coolies care to do private chair work. If you offer them \$9 a month to pay for living expenses while outside they can get \$10 over their living expenses, there is no inducement for them to work for private people; so I would suggest that you should raise the fees of public chair-coolies very largely, that there may be less inducement for them to work publicly and more inducement for them to go with private people. As for the official salaries, I have never been one of those who object to increase of salaries. I quite agree that you should pay good salaries for good men, and I do not think that the salaries put down in the estimates are at all too large, but I certainly think the Government should see they get good work in return. The only objection I make to this item is that I do not agree that the salaries should be paid in sterling. The currency and revenue of this Colony are in silver dollars, and I do not think you should take any cognisance of any other currency. If you like, have your currency in the Colony in sterling and then

pay your salaries in sterling, but I think to collect your revenue in silver dollars and pay your servants in gold is unbusinesslike, illogical and inconsistent. The only argument that I can find when I looked up *Hansard*, in favour of paying sterling was that the Straits Government were doing it. What have we got to do with the Government of the Straits? Another point to show the worthlessness or little value of the argument of officials against payment in silver is that I believe the majority of the officials to-day will take their salaries in silver and not in gold. Of course I quite understand that the new Civil servants have to take payment in sterling. The old ones, I understand will take it in silver, and I do not blame them for doing so, because if silver should rise and they took their salaries in gold they would be getting less dollars; but I think that the outcry against the payment in silver was not so serious as it seemed to be at the time. The only other point I wish to draw attention to is that in the Commission (on which I had the honour to sit) on the Public Works Department, we made a special point that the estimates should only be for work which there was reasonable probability of carrying out during the year. I would ask the Hon. Director of Public Works if he expects to accomplish all the work he estimates for? In former years the work was not all carried out, and the estimates in that respect were rather misleading.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—The estimates, sir, have been very carefully considered with a view to the point that the hon. member on my right has raised, and it is anticipated that the works included in the estimates will be accomplished. I may mention, sir, in connection with these works, that there are some heavy indents for machinery and pipes from England, and it is anticipated that these should arrive in the Colony in time to be charged and paid for out of next year's estimates.

HIS EXCELLENCY—With regard to the Hon. Mr. Playfair's remarks, his first observation, I think, resolves itself into a suggestion that in the case of these works there should be a loan instead of revenue. On this matter of public loans I may say that the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the financial advisers at home are, and I think very properly, extremely averse to a Colony like this finding itself face to face with a very large debt, because we are unlike other colonies in that we are dependent upon a very large shipping trade and derive a considerable amount of money from the ordinary traffic of the port. But we must remember in looking at the Colony that the Imperial Government are ultimately responsible as guarantors of every Crown Colony and therefore, being so, I think the Imperial Government and their advisers are extremely careful that a Crown Colony shall not find itself by any possibility in the position of being obliged to appeal to the Imperial Government for assistance. Therefore it is felt that it is much safer, and on the whole much more sound, that the Colony should pay as it goes. That I think is at the bottom of the suggestion made by the hon. member—that we should borrow instead of increasing the revenue for given expenditure. The Hon. Colonial Treasurer has explained to you that the ordinary and extraordinary revenue and expenditure are indicated, and I think they are very clearly, in the accounts. The proceeds of the land sales are supposed to be devoted to the payment of public works extraordinary. They are not sufficient in this case. I think it is under the circumstances allowable that for these water-works we should secure a loan, and I hope the Secretary of State will give us authority to do so. With reference to the observations of the Hon. Mr. Shewan, these were a little discursive as to the question of chair-coolies. I would only remind the hon. member with reference to that, that while it was shown at that Commission that one coolie had been known to earn a large amount of money in a month, it was stated, as I think he will remember, that the average life of a ricksha-coolie is three years. As regards the question of what we have to do with Singapore, we have a good deal to do with it. On the treatment of public officials in this Colony and the question whether their payment is equal to the payment in Singapore depends the question whether you get at least an equal share of the best men who

pass the examination or whether you receive the remainder, the best men naturally going to the Colony in which they have the best pay. Therefore the Secretary of State in considering the whole matter came to the conclusion that he did arrive at, entirely for the purpose of securing that Hongkong will not be second in the choosing of its Civil servants, or as the choice of Civil servants, but shall have equal advantages with Singapore. I am glad to have heard the statement of the Hon. Director of Public Works. If things go right and if we get the additional men out, I think there is reasonable prospect, having regard to the increase of the staff of the Public Works Department, that the money will be spent. I know I hope myself it will be spent, and I shall be very much disappointed if it is not. (Applause.)

The Bill was read a second time and referred to the Finance Committee.

CHINESE EMIGRATION.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Chinese Emigration Consolidation Ordinance, 1889. The object of the Bill, he said, was to increase the revenue, and if read the second time he would propose that it be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY then moved that the Bill be referred to the Finance Committee, and this motion was also seconded by the COLONIAL TREASURER and agreed to.

THE DOGS ORDINANCE.

On the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the COLONIAL TREASURER, the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend The Dogs Ordinance, 1893, was read a second time and referred to the Finance Committee.

PROPERTY IN HONGKONG.

The same course was followed in respect of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to repeal the Land Registry Office (Fees) Amendment Ordinance, 1902: and to amend Ordinance No. 3 of 1844 entitled "An Ordinance to provide for the Registration of Deeds, Wills, Judgments, and Conveyances affecting real or immovable property in Hongkong."

LIQUOR LICENCES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend The Liquor Licences Amendment Ordinance, 1901. The object of this Bill is to increase the revenue, and I think that hon. members of this Council will agree that since more revenue is required a fitter subject for taxation than alcoholic liquors could not be found. The only way we have at present of increasing the revenue from alcoholic liquors is to increase the fees for the various licences. The fees for Chinese wine and spirit shops, sir, have been graduated in such a manner that those shops in the City, which do a much larger amount of business than those in the outlying districts, are taxed accordingly. I beg to give notice that when this Bill is considered in committee I shall move that in Clause 3 the words "30th day of November" be inserted as the day upon which the Ordinance will come into operation.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Bill was referred to the Finance Committee, on the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the COLONIAL TREASURER.

STAMP ORDINANCE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Stamp Ordinance, 1901. He said—The fees under the Stamp Ordinance are in the majority of cases the same to-day as they were in 1868, and having regard to the great fall in exchange it seems requisite that they should now be increased.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR—Your Excellency, I would ask that the second reading of this Bill be postponed until after the Financial Estimates have been gone through. There are several reasons for which I ask this. One is with regard to bank cheques; I would ask that the duty be made four cents. You may remember, when the Chancellor of the Exchequer in England last spring tried to double the bank cheque duty

there, what an uproar there was, and he had to withdraw it. There is not much public opinion in Hongkong, but what there is we try to voice. Therefore I suggest that four cents is quite enough. Then, sir, as to the receipts. There are many cases in the Colony in which receipts are not stamped amongst the Chinese, as the Senior Unofficial Member probably will know. Any Ordinance is an immoral Ordinance if it helps to make people immoral, and the more the public have to do with this receipt stamp business the more immoral you help to make them. As to deeds of assignment, which you propose to assess at \$75, the Attorney-General will be able to tell you that that can be concluded by agreement for \$1.50. These are simply points that occur to me why I should ask you to postpone the second reading of this Bill.

The Hon. C. S. SHARP supported the suggestion.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I should like to say, sir, that the ordinary expenditure next year will exceed the ordinary revenue, and there is every reason therefore why increased taxation is necessary. The proposals now before the Council have received very careful consideration, and were an Ordinance like this to be postponed, involving as it does an estimated increase of nearly \$34,000, it would upset the calculations that have been made. The hon. member who first spoke indicated certain items which he says are excessive. I must say, sir, that a receipt fee of 2 cents and fee on cheques of 2 cents at the present rate of exchange cannot be regarded as anything but ridiculous. Two cents is about the equivalent of a farthing. Five cents is the equivalent of a penny. The charge proposed does not therefore seem to be excessive, and it is what we are accustomed to at home. As to the Chinese evading the tax imposed by the receipt duty, it is an offence against the law and any person doing so is liable to be prosecuted. I know it is said they evade it, but no evidence has been brought forward to show that they do, and it is for those dealing with them to take care that they are not imposed upon in that way. Personally so far as my dealings with Chinese shop-keepers are concerned, I find they use receipt stamps like anybody else.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—I only wish to say that I am quite willing to support my unofficial friends in asking for a postponement of this Bill, but I am not with them in some of the suggestions they make. With regard to a deed of gift for instance—which Hon. Mr. Playfair objects to being taxed at \$75—I think it is quite reasonable, because as a rule it is only intended to avoid paying the full tax to the Government on the property which is passed over; so that I do not think in that case, as you are only aiding and abetting the persons who are making this deed of gift perhaps not exactly in defrauding the Government but at least in depriving the Government of their full taxes, that \$75 is out of the way. With regard to deeds in which no money consideration is named, these again are a means of depriving the Government of their proper taxes and should also be heavily taxed. As to bank cheques, I am quite with the Government in saying that if they will not agree to 2 cents for cheques and other orders for money, including compradore orders, they should make it 5 cents for cheques only, because that is much simpler and easier to deal with than a 6-cent charge.

HIS EXCELLENCY—But these are matters which can be threshed out in Committee. What is wanted here is the approval of the principle of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—To postpone this Bill would mean the postponement of the estimates. It is already late in the year, and the Bill should be on its way home if we expect to get on with public works at an early date next year. Moreover there is the question of raising a loan that your Excellency has mentioned, and the Secretary of State cannot take that subject into consideration until he has before him the estimates for next year and the approved proposals—approved by this Council—as to how the amounts are to be met. It is extremely difficult to devise any form of taxation that will hurt nobody or will not be distasteful more or less to some member of the community. I may say, sir, that the Government have been at some pains to select such

subjects of taxation as would be least distasteful to the community, and I trust that hon. members will see their way to facilitate the passage of this Bill.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I am very anxious always to meet the wishes of members, especially of unofficial members, of this Council; but I think that hon. members will see that everything is hung up until the draft estimates go home. I should be very glad if the Finance Committee would deal with this question as soon as possible, so that we may know where we are.

The second reading was carried.

On the motion of the **COLONIAL SECRETARY**, seconded by the **COLONIAL TREASURER**, the Bill was afterwards referred to the Finance Committee.

HIS EXCELLENCY—That is all the business to-day, gentlemen. I propose to adjourn the Council till Thursday next. Meantime I hope you will have considered those proposals and will be able to lay reports on the table and then we will be able to send these things all by the next mail.

The Council adjourned.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council, the **COLONIAL SECRETARY** (Chairman) presiding.

THE ESTIMATES FOR 1903.

The expenditure under this head is as follows:—

Charge on account of Public Debt...	\$185,000.00
Pensions	187,400.00
Governor and Legislature ...	82,312.04
Colonial Secretary's Department...	34,634.75
Audit Department...	16,472.45
Treasury	47,631.00
Post Office	397,815.13
Registrar-General's Department ...	33,229.00
Harbour Master's Department ...	129,265.00
Lighthouses	41,379.00
Observatory	23,698.00
Botanical and Afforestation Department ...	33,070.05
Judicial and Legal Departments...	135,595.80
Land Court, New Territory ...	38,498.00
Ecclesiastical	2,400.00
Education	148,152.19
Medical Departments	228,868.81
Bacteriological Department ...	19,391.31
Magistracy	37,340.00
Police	659,795.12
Sanitary Department	479,766.00
Charitable Allowances	5,260.00
Transport... ..	3,000.00
Miscellaneous Services... ..	127,819.00
Colonial Defences—Expenses of the Volunteers	53,979.08
Public Works Department	213,849.50
Public Works, Recurrent, Chargeable to General Revenue	382,000.00
Public Works, Chargeable to Water Account	93,590.00
Public Works, Extraordinary, viz:—	
Law Courts... ..	\$50,000.00
Western Market... ..	30,000.00
Harbour Master's Office	25,000.00
Survey of New Territory... ..	37,000.00
Additional Reservoirs, Tylam Drainage Area	60,000.00
Kowloon Waterworks, Gravitation Scheme	250,000.00
Disinfecting Station in Kowloon Quarters at ditto for Inspector Extension of Inspectors' Quarters at Kennedy Town	1,000.00
Public Latrines and Urinals ...	10,000.00
Praya Reclamation—Government Piers	20,000.00
Praya East Reclamation—Government Share	2,000.00
Tai Po Road	8,000.00
City and Hill District Waterworks	9,000.00
Widening Conduit Road	3,000.00
Public Bath-house, Cross Lane, Wanchai	1,000.00
Government Offices—Extensions and Alterations	5,000.00
Two Temporary Markets—one opposite Sailors' Home and one adjoining new Harbour Office	7,000.00
Extension of Wanchai Market ...	3,000.00
City Waterworks—Public Fountains	10,000.00

City Waterworks—Peak Supply and Re-construction of No. 2 Tank	\$50,000.00
City Waterworks Tylam Tuk Scheme	120,000.00
Reconstruction of Gullies	32,000.00
Cattle Depot Extension	15,000.00
Post Office	20,000.00
Bacteriological Institute	10,000.00
Road from Sam-shui-po to Lai-chi-kok	25,000.00
Road from Kowloon Inland Lot 652, Hunghom, to Sixth Street, Yaumati	10,000.00
Public Bath-houses, Pound Lane, Tai-ping-shan	8,000.00
Resumptions of Insanitary Property	100,000.00
Store Account	100.00
Total,	\$4,728,942.23

REMARKS.

Judicial and Legal Departments.—Hon. R. SHEWAN asked if a gentleman filling two appointments, one in an acting capacity, drew both salaries, or only half of each?

The **COLONIAL TREASURER** replied that according to rule such an official drew the full salary of his own appointment and half of that of his acting appointment.

Hon. R. SHEWAN asked further if it was a fact that one gentleman had acted in two or three capacities.

The **CHAIRMAN** said he knew of only one recent instance, that of an officer in the Colonial Secretary's office.

Hon. R. SHEWAN said he did not wish to make it a personal matter; he was merely desirous of knowing whether it was right that such should be the case.

The **CHAIRMAN**—It is very rarely that it happens. In exceptional circumstances it is sometimes necessary to appoint one officer to two posts. Such officer has to sacrifice much of his spare time to compass both sets of duties.

The **COLONIAL TREASURER** remarked that it was seldom nowadays one found an official filling two appointments.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—I am very glad to hear that.

Medical Department.—Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR asked if assistant surgeons were confined to Government work? and, on receiving a reply in the affirmative, pointed out that one assistant surgeon was receiving remuneration from the Chinese College of Medicine, which was not considered a Government department; this in addition to his own salary.

The **CHAIRMAN** said he had no personal knowledge of the circumstances under which this gentleman was receiving the remuneration referred to, but promised to enquire into the matter.

Hon. R. SHEWAN suggested an increase in the rates attaching to the Government Civil Hospital, where nowadays it was cheaper to live than in a first-class hotel.

Hon. C. S. SHARP supported the suggestion, and proposed the following increased rates:—First class for outside patients (not Government servants), \$10; second class, \$5. First class for Government servants in receipt of salaries of over \$200 per month, \$7.50; second class \$4.

The proposal, which was seconded by the Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR, was noted.

Strong representations were also made that although there is a Vaccine Institute here, the drug stores find it necessary to obtain their supplies of lymph from elsewhere, principally from Shanghai and Saigon, whereby considerable sums were lost annually to the Colony.

The **CHAIRMAN** noted the point and promised it would be seen to.

Miscellaneous Services.—The Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR said he had a point to raise which he thought was best introduced under this head. In his opinion, if the Government wanted to raise the revenue, the best way of doing it was to increase the sale of subsidiary coins.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—Our experience in this Colony is that we don't get enough British subsidiary coins. (Applause.)

The **CHAIRMAN** said the Colonial Treasurer would doubtless look into the matter. Having regard to his nationality, he was sure that the Treasurer would not let an opportunity of making money go past. (Laughter.)

Expenses of the Volunteers.—Hon. G. W. F.

PLAYFAIR—I think this is a very useless item, sir.

Public Works Department.—Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR said they should not starve the Department, and recommended an increase of the staff.

Hon. R. SHEWAN asked if the recommendations of the Commission on the P. W. D. were to be adopted?

The **CHAIRMAN** explained that the recommendations of the Public Works Commission were based on the assumption that the Public Works Department would spend on Public Works Extraordinary a sum of about \$800,000 a year. Next year the Colony could not afford to spend such a large sum on P. W. E., exclusive of the Kowloon Water Works, which were being carried out by a private firm, and of the expenditure on machinery, etc., for other Water Works. Moreover, owing to the completion of the Praya Reclamation scheme, two engineers would be released from work on it and would be available. On these grounds the Secretary of State has not seen his way to approve the recommendations for increase of engineering staff; he had, however, approved the increases to the staff of overseers.

Hon. R. SHEWAN said it seemed to him that the Commission recommended a great deal more than two. Were they ever to get on with the plans of the new Clock Tower?

The **CHAIRMAN** replied that the Clock Tower would have to wait.

Hon. R. SHEWAN asked that the despatch to the Secretary of State and the reply thereto be laid on the table at next meeting?

The **CHAIRMAN** said that he would make known the request to H. E. the Governor.

A discussion ensued as to experiments regarding the material of which the pavements in the Colony should be constructed, and the **CHAIRMAN** informed the meeting that enquiries were now being made as to the asphalt used in Malta, which it was thought might be tried here.

Praya Reclamation: Government Pier.—The question of the erection of a covering for Blake Pier was brought up, and it was suggested that a temporary shelter might be erected.

The **CHAIRMAN** promised to note the suggestion.

Post Office.—Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR thought \$20,000 too little to spend in one year.

The **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS** said the plans were not yet prepared, and nothing could be done until they were submitted and approved of. The work was not such as lent itself to a great rate of speed in its execution.

Public Bath-houses.—In reply to the Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR, the **CHAIRMAN** said the one mentioned in the vote was a permanent erection, and another was being constructed.

Public Works Extraordinary.—The **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS** told the Hon. R. SHEWAN that, provided always he could obtain sufficient assistance the money voted under this head would be expended.

Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR—That is the whole root of the matter—provided that you get sufficient assistance. That is what we have been driving at all summer. It is the opinion of the Colony that the Public Works Department is undermined.

OTHER BILLS.

The following Bills, which had been referred to the Committee, were considered and recommendations noted:—The Chinese Emigration Ordinance, the Dogs Ordinance, and the Stamp Ordinance.

This was all the business.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on Thursday afternoon in the Council Chamber.

Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, Sir HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.

Hon. Colonel L. F. BROWN, R.E. (Senior Officer Commanding the Garrison).

Hon. F. H. MAY (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Dr. F. W. CLARK (Medical Officer of Health).

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Hon. C. S. SHARP.
Hon. C. W. DICKSON.
Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR.
Hon. R. SHEWAN.
Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Acting Clerk of Councils).
MEMBER RE-SWORN.

The Hon. Wei A. YUK took the oath, having entered upon a new term of membership of the Council.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 60 and 61, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

THE ESTIMATES—BLAKE PIER, ETC.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Report of the Finance Committee (No. 14) and moved its adoption. He said—In bringing up this report, sir, I beg to take the opportunity, as Chairman of the Finance Committee, of thanking the hon. members for the expeditious manner in which, at considerable trouble to themselves and loss of time, they disposed of a great deal of important business at last meeting. At that meeting, sir, some questions were raised by hon. unofficial members. The member for the Chamber of Commerce questioned the propriety of one of the members of the Medical Department devoting part of his time to, and receiving remuneration for so doing from, the Chinese College of Medicine; and it was moved by Mr. Sharp and seconded by the member for the Justices that the fees of the Government Civil Hospital for first and second class patients both inside and outside the Government service, should be raised to \$10 and \$5 for outside patients and \$7.50 and \$4 for Government servants respectively.

Hon. C. S. SHARP—Might I point out, sir, that the recommendation as regards Government servants was for those drawing over \$200 a month?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Yes, that is noted. The erection of a temporary shelter at Blake Pier was also suggested, and the member for the Justices suggested that the supplies of subsidiary coins should be largely increased. The Treasurer promised to investigate this matter. Finally, a desire was expressed by the member for the Chamber of Commerce and the member for the Justices to have the correspondence that has passed between the Secretary of State and the Officer Administering the Government regarding the recommendations of the Public Works Commission communicated to the members of this honourable Council. I promised, sir, to look into the matters I have mentioned, and I have already taken steps, with your Excellency's permission, to make arrangements for hon. members to see the correspondence referred to.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded the motion.

HIS EXCELLENCY—With reference to this matter of a shelter for Blake Pier, I may tell hon. members of this Council that I am as anxious as any man in the Council to see this shelter put up at Blake Pier, and I fully recognise the importance of it; but unfortunately, without increasing taxation further than we have suggested, I do not see my way to leaving that on the estimates for this year. At the same time, if we found that the result of the year's proceedings later on and that our next year's revenue appeared to justify it, I have it in my mind that in those circumstances I should ask the permission of the Secretary of State to put a vote for that amount at the first possible moment before the Council with a view to carrying out that work. I fully recognise its importance, but I think members of Council will agree with me that there is nothing in the public works extraordinary that is not more important than that.

The motion was adopted.

PUBLIC SERVICE OF 1903.

The first item on the orders of the day was the third reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding four million seven hundred and twenty-eight thousand nine hundred and forty-two dollars and twenty-three cents to the public service of the year 1903.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—This Bill was already before the Finance Committee, and I had intended, in view of that fact, to ask that it might be read a third time and not re-committed. I find, however, sir, that under

the standing orders the presence of all the members is necessary, and the Attorney-General was not present at the last meeting of the committee. I beg therefore to move that the Council resolve itself into committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council thereupon went into Committee, and on resuming the Bill was read a third time and passed, on the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the COLONIAL TREASURER.

CHINESE EMIGRATION CONSOLIDATION ORDINANCE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved that the Council resolve itself into committee to consider the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Chinese Emigration Consolidation Ordinance, 1889.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council then went into committee and considered the Bill clause by clause, when a few amendments of minor importance were made, on the proposal of the HARBOUR MASTER.

The Bill was afterwards read a third time and passed.

THE DOGS ORDINANCE.

The Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Dogs Ordinance, 1893, was also considered in Committee, on the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the COLONIAL TREASURER.

There were no amendments in committee, and on the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the COLONIAL TREASURER, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

PROPERTY IN HONGKONG.

In committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to repeal The Land Registry Office (Fees) Amendment Ordinance, 1902, and to amend Ordinance No. 3 of 1844 entitled "An Ordinance to provide for the Registration of Deeds, Wills, Judgments and Conveyances affecting real or immovable property in Hongkong," several amendments were made, and these having been accepted by the Council the Bill was read a third time and passed, on the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the COLONIAL TREASURER.

LIQUOR LICENCES.

In committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Liquor Licences Amendment Ordinance, 1900, Hon. C. S. SHARP proposed an amendment that the Bill do not come into operation until 1st January, 1903, instead of 30th November, 1902. He said—My reasons are, sir, that some cases have been brought to my notice of people having wholesale licences for liquor who do a very small business, and who will be stamped out of existence by the \$1,000 fee. In the meantime they have certain stocks—these may be little or they may be large—which they will have to get rid of somehow, and therefore they should be given time to arrange their affairs before they retire from business. It certainly seems to bear rather hardly on them if, in addition to being stamped out of existence, they have also to pay a large fee in order to be able to dispose of the balance of their stocks.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I think that what the hon. member says is the case, sir. I see no serious objection to making it the 1st of January.

The amendment was agreed to, and the Bill was read a third time and passed, on the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the COLONIAL TREASURER.

THE STAMP ORDINANCE.

The Council next went into committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend The Stamp Ordinance, 1901.

Several amendments were proposed, amongst them one by the Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR that the limit of exemption be fixed at \$25 instead of \$20.

A division was taken, when six voted for the amendment and five against it.

HIS EXCELLENCY, who refrained from voting because all the unofficial members were unanimous in their desire to increase the figure for exemption, declared the amendment carried.

The Bill was afterwards read a third time and passed.

HIS EXCELLENCY explained that the various Bills had been hurried through with because it

was desirable that some of them should be sent home at once to the Secretary of State. Care would have to be taken, however, that the amendments accepted by the Council were reproduced in the Bills as finally drawn up.

The Council adjourned *sine die*.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council, the Colonial Secretary (Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G.) presiding.

DAMAGE BY STORMS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$18,610 to cover part of the cost of repairing the damages to roads, retaining walls and buildings by recent typhoons and severe rainstorms.

The CHAIRMAN read a list of the necessary repairs, after which the vote was agreed to.

MAGISTRACY EXPENSES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$500 in aid of the following votes of the Magistracy:—

Office furniture, repairs, and incidental expenses	\$250.00
Costs of witnesses for giving evidence in criminal cases, and for interpreting dialects with which the Court interpreters are unacquainted	\$250.00

Total \$500.00

The CHAIRMAN—The excess has been caused by the larger number of cases heard and witnesses examined, involving the copying of voluminous depositions.

The vote was passed.

That was all the business.

THE LAST OF THE HONGKONG REGIMENT.

DEPARTURE FOR INDIA.

On Thursday afternoon the Hongkong Regiment bade farewell to the Colony and sailed for India to be disbanded at Jhelum, in the Punjab. It is just a little over ten years ago since the Regiment was formed. During its short career it has won golden opinions from those best qualified to judge, and there is nothing but regret expressed on all hands that Hongkong should lose the one unit of the British army which was regarded as the Colony's very own. The Regiment's formation was a result of the decision of the Colonial Defence Committee in 1888 that the garrison of Hongkong should have a permanent strength of two full battalions of infantry, and it was recommended that, if the Indian Government were unable to supply a battalion, a special battalion should be recruited from the Punjab. This latter suggestion ultimately got the approval of the War Office, and in 1891 a special committee of six was appointed, with Lieut. General Gordon, Assistant Military Secretary for Indian Affairs, as chairman, to carry out the work necessary for the raising of the corps. That committee in due course gave in their report, and it was at length decided that the Regiment should be recruited at Jhelum, two companies to be Pathan, four Punjabi, two Hindustani, and one from the 7th B.I.—all Mussulmans. The Government permitted recruiting from other regiments to the extent of 30 from each, and to the number of 562 over and above the draft from the 7th B.I. Major E. G. Barrows of the Indian Staff Corps was appointed to the command and in January, 1892, the enrolment of recruits was begun. So well did the natives respond to the call that in two or three months the Regiment was in a position to be embodied. When the time for its departure from Jhelum arrived, the corps was almost at its full strength, and, when inspected by Lord Roberts before departure, it wanted only 58 of its authorised establishment of 1,013 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men. The officers of the new Regiment were Captain H. F. Faithfull (second in command), Captain J. M. A. Retallick, and Lieuts R. H. Dawson, W. H. M. Woodcock, M. R. E. Ray, E. L. C. Berger, and E. C. Rowcroft. The Regiment sailed from Bombay for Hongkong on 19th April, 1892, arriving here on the 7th of the following month. On 13th May an inspection was made by Colonel Macdonnell, R.A., Commanding the Garrison, and on the

22nd, the Regiment took up position on the site of Whitfield Barracks. For a long period after that the regimental records tell of nothing but hard work and drill, which were attended by the best possible results in the direction of the perfecting of the corps. A band having been recruited from India by Lieut. Berger, colours were presented to the Regiment and on the 13th April, 1894, the trooping ceremony took place on the Cricket Ground. On 29th October of the same year Lieut.-Colonel Barrow resigned the command, and it was assumed by Major Faithfull, who retained it until 29th October, 1897, when he was succeeded by Major Retallick, and Captain W. H. Little of the Indian Staff Corps was appointed second in command. During these intervening years, the Regiment had been gradually, under its able officers, attaining to that high state of efficiency which was so strikingly exemplified in the stirring times that were to follow.

It was in connection with the taking over of the New Territory that the Hongkong Regiment first saw active service. On the 15th April, 1899, Captain Berger with three Jemadars and 122 rank and file marched to Taipo to form a camp, preparatory to the hoisting of the British flag on the acquisition of the hinterland. On arrival it was seen that the hills in the neighbourhood were held by Chinese, estimated at 1,200 strong, bent apparently on opposing the advance of the troops. When a little over 1,000 yards distant the British troops were subjected to artillery fire, and as they continued to stand on the defensive, the Chinese made an advance upon them with rifles. A few long distance volleys checked the approach of the Chinese, who afterwards contented themselves with mortar fire, happily ineffectual. In view of what had happened, Lieut.-Colonel Retallick arrived at Taipo on the 16th with 300 troops of his command. On the 17th at 4 p.m. very heavy hostile fire was heard from the direction of Chung-uk-tsun. Captain Berger with 250 men of the H.K.R. had already gone to a neighbouring hill to dislodge the enemy, who had taken up position with guns on the crest and had been firing at the camp at 2,500 yards range. His force, which was closely followed by a reserve under Lieut. Barrett, soon became hotly engaged, and did the work splendidly. The enemy were forced to retire, and but for the fact that addition 1 guns which had been sent forward under Captain Simmonds, R.A., took a wrong turn, their defeat would have been crushing. As it was, the H.K. Regiment followed up the retreating foe with great bravery and tenacity and inflicted serious loss upon them. Captain Berger's force captured three guns and utterly routed the Chinese. On the 18th hostilities were renewed at Sheung Tsun. The H.K.R. force of about 400 men, under the command of Captain Berger, and directed by Colonel The O'Gorman, were attacked by the Chinese to the number of about 2,600; they gallantly repulsed the attack and utterly routed the enemy. This was the end of armed resistance on the part of the Chinese to the British occupation of the New Territory. As the country got settled the force of the Hongkong Regiment there was gradually reduced and they returned to Kowloon.

During the recent troubles in North China, the good soldierly qualities of the Hongkong Regiment were again put to a test, from which they emerged with flying colours. They took part in the relief of Tientsin and the resultant fighting in that neighbourhood, the march on Peking to the relief of the Legations and the subsequent operations against the Chinese brigands. These services were highly extolled by General O'Moore Creagh, G.O.C. In all 828 rank and file of the Regiment went North when the trouble broke out, the English officers being Lieut.-Colonel Retallick, Commandant; Captain Berger, second in command; Captains Rowcroft, Anderson, and Campbell; Lieuts. Moberly, Barrett, and Wallace. Thirteen native officers also were present, and Lieut. Pye 5th I.H.C., Lieut. Hutchison, 22nd B.I., and Lieut. Rudkin, 30th B.I., were attached to the Regiment for field service. Major Little was on sick leave in England when the corps was ordered North. He sailed for China at once and reached Tientsin on 23rd March, 1901, with a draft of 97 men, but unfortunately died there a few months later. On all sides the highest

praise was accorded the Hongkong Regiment during these operations. Lieut.-Colonel Retallick, Captain Rowcroft, Captain Berger, Subadar Major Sirdar Khan, and Subadar Jan Mohammad were honourably mentioned in despatches.

The news of the coming disbandment of the Hongkong Regiment came with surprise to those outside military circles. As the day approached when the Regiment had to bid farewell to the Colony from which it took its name, one heard not infrequently expressions of regret that such a magnificent corps should lose its embodiment. But it is useless to cavil at the ways of the military authorities. Their fiat had gone forth. Hongkong has witnessed few such impressive spectacles as that which took place at Happy Valley on the 10th inst., when the Regiment, after inspection by the Governor, H.E. Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., went through the ceremony of trooping the colours preparatory to their departure. On the following Sunday, the 12th, the colours were deposited with all decorum in St. John's Cathedral in presence of a large and representative assembly. The officers of the Regiment at present are Major E. L. C. Berger, Commandant; Captain E. C. Rowcroft, D.S.O., Captains P. G. Anderson and G. W. Campbell, Lieut. and Adjutant H. S. Moberly, Lieuts. E. C. L. Wallace and W. H. Bingham.

From an early hour Thursday morning all was bustle at the quarters of the Regiment at Kowloon. The baggage had been sent on board the *Arratoon Apear* on the previous day, so that nothing remained Thursday but the embarkation of the men themselves and their more immediate effects. This was effected without a hitch. The men were marched to the Police Pier, accompanied by the band and pipers of the Kowloon Garrison regiments, and thence were conveyed in launches to the *Arratoon Apear*, which lay out in the channel opposite the Canton wharf. The vessel cast off from her buoy in the afternoon and steamed away for the South.

FESTIVAL AT MACAO.

The feast of Our Lady of Guia is a time-honoured fixture among the Portuguese, especially so among the Portuguese garrison, who make it a rule to celebrate the annual feast in striking fashion. This year, owing to the presence of a larger force in Macao than usual, the efforts to keep up this old custom have been exceptional. About a month or two ago invitations were issued by a committee formed for this purpose to all the Portuguese ladies of Macao and Hongkong to co-operate with the committee in the getting up of an open-air Fancy Fair, the proceeds of which are to go towards a fund for the annual celebration of the feast. For one reason or another the invitations were not responded to by a large majority, and the proposed Fair was on the point of falling through; but owing to the untiring efforts of the committee this was averted, and it was carried through last Saturday and Sunday, the 18th and 19th inst. Favoured by fine weather, a large number of Hongkong residents went over by the *Hengshun* on Saturday to attend the fair and the feast. The steamer *Chukong* also made an excursion trip later on in the day. Hotel accommodation at Macao was taxed to the utmost, the two principal hotels being full, while the recently started "Hotel Internacional," pleasantly situated on the Praia Grande, was full of guests from Hongkong.

On Saturday evening the Fair was opened at the Avenida Vasco de Gama which was tastefully decorated with flags and banners and brilliantly illuminated with Japanese lanterns and fairy lamps, the effects of which were very pleasing. The zig-zag road leading up to the Guia lighthouse, fort, and chapel was also nicely lit up, the moon lending its help to make the scene a beautiful one; in fact all Macao, ordinarily so quiet, was on fire for the occasion, even the ricksha-coolies seeming on the alert to secure double fares. The programme for Sunday consisted of a solemn high mass at 9.30 at the Sé Cathedral, in which the whole of the Macao clergy took part. It was well attended; among the congregation there were H.E. the Acting Governor, Dr. Lello, his aide-de-camp, and the naval and military officers. At 4.30 in the afternoon the procession of our Lady of Guia started from

the Sé, and slowly wended its way to the Guia chapel at the summit of the hill, followed by a large concourse of people, consisting mostly of the military element; as it approached its destination, the Guia fort fired a salute. The service at the chapel was short, the sermon for the occasion being preached by the Rev. Father Gomes. In the evening the fair and illuminations were continued, and at 9 o'clock there was a grand pyrotechnic display, the fireworks having been specially ordered from Canton. The Avenida was thronged with a cosmopolitan crowd, including the Acting Governor and party, the élite of Macao society and visitors from Hongkong. The Chinese as usual predominated, the chief attraction for them being the fireworks. The band of the Police Force was in attendance on both nights, and the strains of music discoursed by it helped to enliven the proceedings considerably. Altogether the show was a huge success as far as appearance goes; financially we understand that the proceeds were not up to the expectations of the promoters. The net proceeds of the Fair will not go to the fund as originally intended, but will be handed to the Sisters Cannossians of Macao for the benefit of the poor orphans under their charge.

THE AMOY FIRE.

The *N.-C. Daily News* correspondent writes from Amoy on the 7th October:—

Amoy has been visited by many calamities during this year—plague, cholera, drought, dengue fever, &c.—but the climax has come in the terrible fire which devastated the bulk of the business portion of the city on Friday last, October 3rd. Oddly enough a small fire began about 8.30 a.m. on the island of Kulangsu in carpenter's yard, but, luckily, this did not extend to any other building, and was extinguished in a few hours, not before destroying wood, however, to the value of \$1,000. As fires are an uncommon thing here, everybody was more than astonished to see smoke rising from the centre of Amoy city very soon after the Kulangsu fire had begun to blaze. It began close to one of the principal temples of the city, the Koan Te Bio, and is said to have been caused by the cooks in a cake-shop overturning the pan in a free fight, and then throwing lighted charcoal about, which of course soon set fire to neighbouring paper and woodwork. Anyway, they little knew the immense damage that was to be done before the fire they so thoughtlessly kindled was put out. For it is calculated that some 1,600 houses have been burnt, and that, too, in the very best part of the business section of the city, behind the foreign long. Indeed, these have not altogether escaped, for Messrs. Douglas Lapraik & Co., and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., have had their premises burnt, while portions of the Chinese Custom House, and other adjacent premises were seriously damaged. The office of our local newspaper, the *Amoy Gazette*, where all the local Expresses are printed, was burnt out, and I fear it will be some time before the next issue is printed. It would be impossible to enumerate the many important Chinese hongts that were destroyed nor is it easy to calculate the amount of the damage in dollars, but nothing is more evident than that Amoy will feel the extent of the blow for a good while to come.

Unfortunately, it has not occurred without loss of life, for the Captain of the s.s. *Wenchow*, Captain Fife, who gallantly, but too carelessly, tried to save certain buildings, was caught by a falling wall, and crushed beneath the ruins before it was possible to rescue him. He was buried in the Amoy Cemetery on Kulangsu with due honours on Saturday afternoon, 4th October.

And it is already known that a good many Chinese, both women and men, have perished, some from inability to get away, others from being too venturesome in searching among the debris of their houses. Several men who tried to rob were also, quite rightly, shot when in the act of plying their nefarious work.

There is only one way of looking at the fire in the light of a blessing, and that is, if it will only have burnt up the germs of the plague that have filled Amoy for some years past. One remembers how the Great Plague of London

was followed a few years later by the great fire, and how seldom plague has visited our shores since. So if the fire will give us an immunity from this fell visitant in coming years, it will be more of a blessing than a curse after all.

BRITISH CONSULAR APPOINTMENTS.

The *London Gazette* of the 12th ult., under date Foreign Office, April 5, notified that the King has been graciously pleased to appoint—

Alexander Hosie, Esq., to be His Majesty's Consul-General for the Province of Szechuen.

James Scott, Esq., to be His Majesty's Consul-General for the Provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi, to reside at Canton.

William Henry Wilkinson, Esq., to be His Majesty's Consul-General for the Provinces of Yunnan and Kweichow.

Ernest Frederick Bennett, Esq., to be His Majesty's Consul at Ichang.

William Holland, Esq., to be His Majesty's Consul at Swatow.

Richard Howard Mortimer, Esq., to be His Majesty's Consul at Ningpo.

Pierce Essex O'Brien Butler, Esq., to be His Majesty's Consul for the Province of Chekiang, to reside at Hangchow.

William Pollock Ker, Esq., to be His Majesty's Consul at Wuhu.

Walter James Glennell, Esq., to be His Majesty's Consul at Kiukiang.

Harry Alexander Little, Esq., to be His Majesty's Consul at Pakhoi.

It will be seen, comments the *L. & C. Express* that several of these appointments create precedents, and betoken an appreciation of the position in China that it is gratifying to observe. Thus we have the post created of Consul-General for Szechuen and the excellent appointment made of Mr. A. Hosie to be the first occupant, a man who has already done good work in the province; also we have a Consul-General for Yunnan and Kweichow, and the likewise well merited promotion of Mr. W. H. Wilkinson, who has recently done good work at Ningpo and Wenchow, to fill the post. It is perhaps worth calling attention to the fact that Great Britain has now five posts in China to which Consuls-General are nominated: Canton, Shanghai, Tientsin, and the two new positions we have noted above.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

The *Straits Times* of the 9th inst. writes:—

Among the passengers due to arrive here by the Messageries s.s. *Andam* on Sunday afternoon is M. Beau, the Governor-General of Indo-China, who comes out here to take possession of the newly extended French colonies in the Far East. It is easy to believe that the matters of the extension of the Cambodian boundary west of the Mekong, and the evacuation of Chantabun, were both definitely settled before he left Paris, but the arrangement was kept quiet until his approach to Bangkok rendered it necessary to make the announcement in order to save having to create too marked a denouement by heralding the news himself. It is now to be hoped that the anticipations of *Le Temps*, mentioned by Reuter to-day, will be realised, and that the result of the new treaty will be the removal of those difficulties which have long been sources of irritation between Siam and France.

Since comment upon the subject was made in this column yesterday, research into sources of information, other than were then available, seems to justify the belief that Reuter, *more suo*, so hopelessly distorted in transmission the names of the two rivers referred to that they were unrecognisable. The extreme western boundary of Cambodia, for some 45 miles directly north of the Great Lake so-called, is along a small river near the mouth of which is a town called Kampong Cham. Now the Siamese for a river mouth is *Pak* or *Pek*. Therefore the estuary of the river whereon Kampong Cham is situated might very naturally be called *Pak Kampong*, which is probably the River, "Pick Kompong" of the despatch. River Rolnas there is none, but about 20 miles west of Kampong Cham, and midway between that town and Siem Rat—the capital of the province of Siem Rat or Angkor—a small river runs parallel with the

old boundary line, and situate thereon, near the coast, is a place marked *Muang Ralu* (Ralu town) in McCarthy's map. In an older but much larger French map, that river is marked as *Koluos*, and there can be little doubt but that the River Rolnas referred to in yesterday's despatch and this river *Roluos* are identical. Accepting this as the real arrangement, it is to be inferred that France takes over a strip of territory only about 15 or 20 miles wide, running about 45 miles north and parallel to but west of the present boundary. Thence, however, the strip expands and from the point 13 deg. 55 mins. N. by 104 deg. 5 mins. E. it is to be assumed that the boundary will run in a curved line, in a north-easterly direction, along the mountain range forming the western watershed of the Mekong to a point on the river slightly north of the town of Bassac, or at a point that may be roughly estimated as 25 deg. 10 mins. N. and 105 deg. 15 mins. E. The triangle included between these two points, and a point on the Mekong River at 13 deg. 12 mins. N. and 106 deg. 20 mins. E. south of the town of Stung Treng—is taken away from Siam. This triangle has an apparent area of over 10,000 miles.

AN OPIUM CONTRACT CASE IN JAPAN.

Acting on behalf of Mr. Robert Hughes, of Kobe, Mr. Hirata, a Japanese barrister, has reinstituted an action which has been several times before the Courts, arising out of a claim made by Mr. Hughes for a share of the profits of the opium business in Formosa carried on by Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., of Yokohama and Kobe. The action was originally instituted against Mr. F. J. Bardens, as representative of Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. in Kobe, but it was decided by the Court that Mr. Bardens was not liable in the suit, and the case was consequently dismissed. Attempts have since been made to compromise the case, but they have failed. In the present action Sir Marcus Samuel, Mr. Samuel Samuel, and Mr. William Foote Mitchell, partners in the firm of Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., are made defendants.

The petition of plaintiff reads as follows:— Robert Hughes, the plaintiff in this action, prays that the defendants jointly and separately be ordered to pay to the plaintiff the sums of 15,500.50 yen, and 3,113.30 yen, together with interest thereon at the legal rate from July 1st, 1897, to the execution of the judgment in this case.

The reasons given for the claim are:—

1.—In May 1896 the plaintiff was engaged by the defendants, and took charge of the import department of the firm on the understanding that he should receive one-fourth of the net profits made out of the business under his control, in addition to a fixed monthly salary.

2.—About July, 1896, the plaintiff was informed that the Japanese Government intended to entrust the purchase of opium for use in Formosa to a trustworthy foreign firm, and desiring to secure this business for the firm of the defendants, plaintiff visited Tokyo and approached Marquis Ito, with whom he was well acquainted. Upon the introduction of Marquis Ito, plaintiff applied to the Ministers of State then in office and other officials, and succeeded in securing the contract for supplying the Japanese Government with opium for its opium monopoly in Formosa.

3.—Prior to his departure for Tokyo the plaintiff had proposed to the defendants that in case he succeeded in securing the contract, one-fourth of the net profits made should be paid him as long as the contract was held by the firm. The defendants agreed to those conditions.

4.—In November, 1896, the plaintiff proceeded to Formosa and Hongkong in connection with the arrangements for the new contract, and returned to Kobe in March 1897, when he discovered that during his absence the defendants had infringed a trade-mark, his property. In consequence, the plaintiff left the defendants' firm in November, 1897, and re-entered business on his own account.

5.—The defendants continued to hold the opium contract, making thereby a net profit of 12,450.20 yen every half year, and the share of the profits due to the plaintiff for the period from the establishment of the business to June

30th, 1899, amounted to the sum claimed. The plaintiff repeatedly applied to the defendants for the payment of his share of the profits, but the firm failed to satisfy him, on the ground that the business had proved a loss instead of a gain.

In conclusion, defendants having secured the contract from the Japanese Government as a result of the labour of the plaintiff, and having agreed to pay to the plaintiff one-fourth of the net profits of this business, which agreement they had failed to fulfil, the plaintiff had been obliged to bring the present action.

The case is down for hearing on the 28th inst. None of the three defendants in the action is at present in Japan.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE LICENSING OF PILOTS.

We have received from the Secretary of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce the following further correspondence on the subject of the proposed licensing of pilots:—

Colonial Secretary's Office.

16th July, 1902.

SIR.—I am directed to acquaint you for the information of the Chamber of Commerce that the Officer Administering the Government has had under consideration the report, forwarded in your letter of the 18th ultimo, on the subject of the licensing of pilots at this port.

2. The report shows that while there is no necessity at this port for pilotage properly so-called, a demand exists for

(a) Chinese capable of berthing alongside the private wharves of the Wharf and Godown Company the comparatively small number of vessels which use these wharves;

(b) Men who have a local knowledge of tides;

(c) Men who know the position of ships which may be in Harbour at any particular time.

3. The first of the above indicated qualifications is one which no one should be asked to guarantee unless after ample personal observation of the capabilities of the person guaranteed. No examiner, unless he had frequent opportunity of observing the practical work of the candidate, could give a certificate vouching competency in the qualification demanded.

The person in the Colony best qualified to give an opinion on the competency of any person in this respect is the wharfinger of the Wharf and Godown Company, and I am to suggest that if that official were empowered by the Company which employs him to give testimonials to such persons as he considers competent to bring vessels alongside the wharves of the Company, the difficulty would be met in a simple and satisfactory manner.

4. The second qualification is one that could to some extent be tested, but the third is a qualification of general intelligence hardly sufficient to demand Government warranty.

5. A fourth point—the handling of vessels—is alluded to in the report. This is a qualification which cannot be tested without practical observation. But even if it could be tested by the examiner, I am to point out that the responsibility for the handling of a vessel must remain with the master and officers of the vessel, and cannot be shifted to the shoulders of a Chinese pilot.

In these circumstances I am to state that the Officer Administering the Government regrets that he cannot see his way to adopt the suggestion of the Chamber, because His Excellency considers that to require the Harbour Master or any other Government officer to give certificates for qualifications which such office cannot test would be to place the officer concerned in an entirely false position. I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

The SECRETARY
Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong, 8th September.

SIR.—The Sub-Committee of the Chamber of Commerce have considered the letter dated 16th July, 1902, from the Colonial Secretary, in which certain reasons are brought forward why H. E. the Officer Administering the Government is unable to agree to the request of the Chamber

of Commerce that pilots working in Hongkong waters be licensed.

We cannot endorse the statement made in the letter under consideration that "there is no necessity at this port for pilotage properly so-called."

A large number of vessels which visit this port do require pilots for one reason or another, and it appears that the reasons mentioned in the report dated 10th June, a copy of which has been forwarded to the Colonial Secretary on the 18th idem, constitute regular pilots' duties such as would be required of them in the various ports at which our vessels call, viz.: sufficient local and nautical knowledge to safely berth a vessel alongside a wharf, knowledge of the channels, currents, etc., of the harbour, of the position of the various ships in the harbour, and to safely take a vessel to her allotted moorings in the harbour. These duties are precisely similar to those required of pilots in the ports of Penang, Singapore, etc., etc.

There being therefore a demand for qualified men to carry out this work, it appears only reasonable that certificates of competency should be granted by the Government.

We believe we are right in stating that no British port either at home or in the colonies would men be allowed to act as pilots without a Government licence.

We are well aware that in certain ports in the neighbourhood of this Colony all pilots are licensed, unlicensed men being prohibited from acting as pilots. As these licensed pilots include a number of Chinese, it would appear that the difficulties which have occurred to the Government in licensing native pilots are possible of being overcome. The Licensing Board need not necessarily be composed entirely of Government officials, but might be supplemented by experts whose services could no doubt be secured, as are those of nautical assessors in a Court of Law.

In our previous report already referred to we have cited as an instance the licensing of the steersmen and engineers of steam launches, and we believe that if this can be satisfactorily accomplished, the Government should also be able to deal with the question of native pilots.

The proposal contained in the third paragraph of the Colonial Secretary's letter does not commend itself to the members of the Sub-Committee.

We do not consider it reasonable to attempt to place the servants of a public Company in the position of Government officials and to expect them to accept responsibility which the Government declines.

While the granting or refusing of a certificate of competency involves no risk or pecuniary responsibility upon the Government, a company would not possess the same immunity from responsibility, and we are informed that the Wharf Co. see very serious objections to acting upon the suggestion made in this paragraph of the Colonial Secretary's letter under consideration. We would further point out that not only are duly qualified pilots required to take vessels to the Kowloon wharf, but all men acting as pilots should also be qualified to perform the ordinary duties attaching to a pilot's position.

With regard to the fifth and sixth paragraphs of the Colonial Secretary's letter, we cannot but consider that the questions therein raised are calculated rather to obscure the main point at issue.

The responsibility of the commander and officers of a vessel, even though a licensed pilot be on board, is well understood and fully recognised.

In requesting that pilots in Hongkong waters be licensed, we are only asking for what is done as a matter of course not only in home ports, where white men are engaged in the trade, but also in the Eastern ports, where the local pilot services include Asiatics. In support of this statement we may say that this system obtains not only in Aden, Bombay, Calcutta, Penang, Singapore and other British ports in the East, but also in Japan and the open treaty ports of China.

So far as we are able to ascertain, a very large proportion of the ocean-going vessels which visit this port take pilots, even though, they may not be going alongside a wharf, but merely anchoring in the harbour.

Setting aside all matter of detail, the broad

question at issue is that in Hongkong there is a general demand for pilots whose services are required by most of the large vessels visiting the port. Under such circumstances and bearing in mind the very great importance of Hongkong as one of the largest shipping ports in the British Empire, it is a matter of urgency that no unlicensed men should be permitted to act as pilots.

Without wishing to go over old ground, we must, in view of the objections raised by the Government, again point out that by issuing such licenses the Government accepts no responsibility, but is merely exercising an executive control over an important adjunct to our trade, such as is done in all large shipping centres.

We believe the whole of the General Committee are agreed as to the importance of this question, and trust therefore that further representations on the subject may be made to the Government.—Your obedient servants,

EDBERT A. HEWETT.

W. POAT.

ARMIN HAUPT.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 29th September, 1902.

SIR.—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 16th July last, in reply to my letter of 18th June last, with enclosure, on the subject of the proposal made by the committee of this Chamber for the licensing of pilots at this port, and I am directed to express the great regret of the Committee that the Government does not see its way to adopt the suggestion of the Chamber in regard to the above-mentioned proposal.

This matter has had further serious consideration at the hands of the Committee, and they would again venture to address you on the subject, as they feel that the matter is one of considerable importance to the port, seeing the very large amount of tonnage frequenting these waters, and the difficulties in the way can hardly be considered insurmountable, or of a serious nature.

The licensing of pilots is a function exercised by Governments of all civilised countries, and the Committee would urge that what is so almost invariably the practice elsewhere can surely, and ought to be, undertaken and carried out by the Government of this, one of the largest shipping ports in the world.

The Committee also desire to express the emphatic opinion that it is not only desirable, but most necessary, that there should be some official control over men performing such important and responsible work as that of a pilot, and it is remarkable, to say the least of it, that in a port of this magnitude there should be no regulations on the subject.

With a view to having the matter considered as closely as possible, the Committee submitted your letter of 16th July to the Sub-Committee by whom the report already forwarded to you in my letter of 18th June last was drawn up. The further report of this Sub-Committee has been before the Committee, by whom it was unanimously adopted, and I am directed to hand you herewith a copy thereof for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor, and to express the hope of the Committee that with this further information before him His Excellency may be pleased to again consider the suggestions made and to authorise steps being taken to carry into effect the suggestions submitted.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

A. R. LOWE,
Secretary.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
16th October, 1902.

SIR.—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, on the subject of the proposal for the licensing of pilots at this port, and to inform you that His Excellency the Governor, having carefully considered this question, sees no reason to change the decision arrived at by Sir W. Gascoigne, which was communicated to you in my letter No. 1574 of the 16th of last July. I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant.

F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

The SECRETARY,
Chamber of Commerce.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 23rd October.

ARRIVALS.

After a fortnight of quiet, the last week has brought many new arrivals to Macao, and there are at present a large number of visitors in the town. Last week the *Diu* arrived from North China, and then came the French river gunboat *Vigilante*; it was hoped that the *Sandpiper* would come here also last week with Capt. and Mrs. Lockhart on their honeymoon, but it appears that they have given up the idea of coming here for the present. Last Friday the British Vice-Consul and Mrs. Seaton arrived after their stay in Japan.

H.E. SR. CA-TELLO BRANCO'S MISSION.

Naturally the chief topic of interest here of late has been the mission of H. E. Senhor Branco to Peking. It was evident that its success depended largely upon the measure of support which he could receive from the Ministers at the Chinese capital, and he had to count on the probable hostility of the French Minister to any concessions in a region which he may conceive to belong to the French sphere. The first news seemed to point to a successful issue, but the vagueness of the telegram not less than the past history of negotiations in China suggests doubt whether much material advantage will accrue to Macao or to Portugal. It now appears that the proposed railway will in any case have to rely upon Chinese or, more probably, upon British capital for its chances of completion.

It was hoped that the H. E. Senhor Branco would see his way to pay a visit to Macao, and he was definitely invited by the Chamber of Commerce, who intended to give a ball in his honour. However, he has replied that he will not have time to come to Macao, and he has accordingly invited the Colony to send some of the leading officials to meet him in Hongkong when he arrives on the German mail. Accordingly it is probable that H. E. the Acting Governor will cross with some other officials in the *Diu* to meet him at Hongkong upon the arrival of the German mail steamer *Hamburg*.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 21st October.

LOCAL DISTRESS AND BRIGANDAGE.

Never have Canton and the outlying districts been so badly off as they are now. The people have had hard times during the prevalence of plague, heavy taxation overburdened them, and now famine is visiting them after the failure of autumnal crops, drought prevailing everywhere. Provisions are getting very dear and robbers are much bolder and fiercer than ever. Some charitable corporations are soliciting subscriptions, chartering ships to go and buy cheap rice at Wuhu, Chiukiang, Bangkok, and other places to supply the famine-stricken people in Kwangtung and Kwangsi; but as Canton has already been fleeced by the rapacity of the officials, not much money can be got, and worse times may yet be expected. Robber bands of from 40 to over a hundred are about, and the officials and gentry are in great fear of them. As to soldiers, I need not say much of them. Soldiers are thieves, and thieves are soldiers, and the so-called "braves" lose their bravery when they see thieves. To the west of Canton there is a village known as Nam Ngon mostly occupied by the people of the surname of Choi, whose clan is the biggest. In this village there was a large lottery establishment, the Sai Sing, kept by Choi Yai Shiang for the "white pigeon" lottery. For the protection of the establishment, Choi engaged 50 to 60 soldiers, who made it look more like a garrison than a gambling-house. They were armed with rifles and swords, patrolling about day and night. A few days ago a gang of some 40 or 50 robbers, on a predatory expedition, had to pass the outside of Nam Ngon village. The soldiers went in pursuit and shot two of them dead. The robbers have sworn to avenge themselves upon Choi Yai Shiang, or if they cannot catch him, to raze the whole village to the ground. The villagers, having heard of it, in great fear have deserted the village, with their families and belongings. Choi also has fled to avoid the vengeance of the robbers.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT]

Swatow, 22nd October.

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

H.M.S. *Espiegle* arrived here last week and after a couple of days stay left again for the north. The Chinese revenue cruiser *Chuentiao*, on her way to the south, visited this port the other day.

THE CHINESE TELEGRAPH ADMINISTRATION.

As a sequel to the publication of my letter concerning the local office which appeared in the *Daily Press* a long time back, the services of the former manager here have been dispensed with and another one appointed in his place. There are not many complaints heard now, but there is room yet for further improvements. The foreign mercantile community forwarded a petition to the Eastern Extension Telegraph head office asking for the establishment of a branch here. Considering the great commercial importance of it is port it is trusted the Company will accede to the wishes of the business houses here.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE VOLUNTEER CORPS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 21st October.

SIR,—In the discussion on the Estimates for 1903 in the Legislative Council on Monday, the Hon. G. W. F. Playfair, referring to the grant "Expenses of the Volunteer Corps," is reported to have styled the item as "an altogether useless one." I think the remark is both ill-timed and ill-considered. People better qualified to judge of the value of the Volunteer Corps, Major-General Gascoigne, Colonel Brown, and Colonel Johnson, for instance, have expressed opinions quite to the contrary of that contained in the remark attributed to the hon. member of Council. His reflection is a poor return for the unselfishness of men who are ready and willing to give of their best to the service of the Colony.—I am, sir, yours, etc.,

KHAKI.

UNPLEASANT SCAVENGING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 22nd October.

SIR,—Will you permit me some space in your paper to make public a grievance which is fast becoming intolerable? I wish to refer to the vigorous work daily carried on by the scavengers between noon and 1 p.m. on the Glenealy and adjoining roads. At this hour these roads are mostly frequented and it is needless for me to dwell on the great inconvenience and the extreme peril faced by all who pass through the tainted atmosphere which then pervades the whole of that locality. It occurs to my mind that the sweeping of the roads should be done at a time when they are empty, but there may be potent reasons against such a course which I quite fail to comprehend.—Yours, etc.,

SUFFERER.

CANTON INSURANCE CO., LD.

The 21st ordinary general meeting of the above Company was held at the offices at noon on Thursday. The Hon. C. W. Dickson (Chairman of the Consulting Committee) presided, and the others present were Messrs. F. Maitland, J. H. Lewis, D. M. Moses (Consulting Committee), E. C. Emmett (acting secretary), B. C. Wilcox, G. C. Anderson, J. Orange, K. A. Chincy, A. V. Apcar, H. R. H. Hunter, W. A. Cruickshank, K. McK. Ross, P. Tester, Ho Tung, Ho Fook, Ho Kum Tong, and Leung Cheng Shin.

The notice convening the meeting having been read.

The CHAIRMAN, before entering upon the business of the meeting, said—I desire to express, on behalf of the General Agents and Consulting Committee, their sincere regret at the loss

of an old and valued colleague in the person of Mr. Gillies, who was a member of the Committee from 1890 until his resignation last year. We are pleased to be in a position to announce a favourable result of the working of the 1901 account, which enables us to recommend an increase of 2 per cent. in dividend, making 28 per cent; an addition to Reserve Fund of \$50,000, bringing this fund up to \$1,250,000; and the carrying forward of \$8,056.9 to strengthen the current year's position, and we trust this apportionment of profit will meet with your approval. Competition has been quite as keen as heretofore, but notwithstanding that our premium income has appreciably increased, which is a satisfactory feature. Our investments are on a sound basis. The holding of United States Bonds (\$2,000 gold) stands at a very moderate cost in view of the heavy depreciation in silver, and mortgages, which you will notice show an increase of \$200,000, have all been favourably reported upon by our surveyors in their annual valuation report. The present year's working shows an estimated credit balance at 30th September of \$579,514, but I regret to say that this amount has been encroached upon since the publication of the report, our losses meanwhile having been in the neighbourhood of a lakh of dollars, a circumstance which illustrates the prudence of carrying forward liberally from year to year. There is nothing further worthy of note to report, but I shall be pleased to answer any questions shareholders may desire to ask.

There being no questions, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, second by Mr. HUNTER, the report and accounts as presented were adopted and passed.

Mr. ORANGE moved that the appointment of Messrs. Brown and Lewis to the Consulting Committee be confirmed, and that the retiring members of the Committee be re-elected.

This proposal was seconded by Mr. HO TUNG and carried unanimously.

The next business was with regard to the auditors, and on the motion of Mr. ANDERSON, who was seconded by Mr. HO FOOK, the appointment of Mr. Wilcox was confirmed, and he and Mr. W. H. Potts were re-elected for the ensuing year.

This was all the business. Dividend warrants will be ready to-day.

THE NORTH CHINA INSURANCE CO., LD.

The following is the report for presentation to the eleventh ordinary general meeting of shareholders, to be held at the Offices of the Company, No. 10, The Bund, Shanghai, to-day, at 4 p.m.

The directors beg to submit for the information of shareholders the annexed duly audited statement of the Company's accounts to the 30th June, 1902.

1901.—An interim dividend of 4 per cent., aggregating taels 42,477.82 was declared on the 1st May last, and after deducting this amount from the balance of the working account, there remains a sum of taels 180,731.33, which the directors recommend should be appropriated in the following manner:—

A final dividend of 4 per cent. on paid-up capital.

A bonus of 10 per cent. upon contributory premiums.

And the balance to be retained to meet further liabilities.

1902.—The balance at credit of working account to the 30th June amounts to taels 200,964.32.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. W. H. Poate having resigned his seat on the board on his departure for Europe, Mr. John H. Osborne was invited to fill the vacancy thereby created. Mr. G. A. Matthews also resigned on leaving for home.

All the directors retire in accordance with the regulations of the Company, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. White and Wingrove (the latter acting for Mr. Wrightson, during his temporary absence) and their term of office having expired, Messrs.

White and Wrightson again tender their services to the shareholders.

By order of the court of directors,
WM. GEO. BAYNE,
Secretary.

Shanghai, 11th October, 1902.

The accounts are as follows:—

BALANCE-SHEET

On the 30th June, 1902.

Dr.	Taels.
To capital account:—	
5,000 shares at £25=£125,000.0.0 at 2 3/4	1,085,972.85
To reserve fund	360,000.00
To working account, 1901:—	
Amount brought forward	Taels.
from below	223,209.21
Deduct—	
Interim share dividend	42,477.88
	180,731.33
To working account, 1902:—	
Amount brought forward from below	200,964.32
To dividends collected	3,344.69
To sundry creditors	138,239.22
	Taels 1,969,252.41

Cr.	Taels.
By cash on current and deposit accounts in Shanghai	141,650.43
By Chinese Imperial Government loan of 1896 (E. issue)	18,000.00
By Shanghai Municipal loans	94,937.50
By Shanghai Land Investment Co.'s 5 per cent. debentures	6,684.92
By Shanghai Land Investment Co.'s 6 per cent. debentures	70,105.81
By Shanghai Waterworks Co.'s 5 per cent. debentures	9,600.00
By Shanghai Waterworks Co.'s 6 per cent. debentures	20,210.00
By Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co., Ltd.	400.00
By mortgages on property in Shanghai	113,000.00
By London freehold premises	332,804.45
By London branch—balance, viz.:—	
cash at bankers	£5,834 1 5
British Govt. securities	19,685 6 6
Indian Govt. securities	18,994 6 11
Colonial Govt. securities	26,989 17 4
Chinese Govt. 5 per cent. loan of 1896	11,044 14 7
Chinese Imperial Railway 5 per cent. loan of 1899	4,790 0 0
Japanese Government 4 per cent. loan of 1899	8,745 2 0
English railway securities	5,179 6 1
Indian railway securities	18,768 14 0
Canadian Pacific Railway 5 per cent. mortgage debts	5,641 5 0
Furniture accounts—London and Manchester	300 0 0
Premium outstanding, bills receivable, policy stamps and drafts in course of collection	6,454 19 7
	£132,418 13 5
Less—Due to sundries	11,547 9
	1,504,722.69
By balance at branches	62,567.71
By furniture at head office and branches	2,473.55
By sundry debtors	46,346.25
	Taels 1,969,252.41

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1901.

Dr.	Taels.
To net premium	613,747.34
To interest	62,589.53
To transfer and certificate fees	59.00
To exchange account	53,439.60
	Taels 729,835.47

Cr.	Taels.
By agency commissions	11,927.71
By charges at head office, branches and agencies	133,544.33
By directors' and auditors' fees	4,900.00
By income tax	6,640.84
By depreciation furniture account	264.91
By losses and claims	349,355.47
By balance carried forward	223,209.21
	Taels 729,835.47

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1902.

Dr.	Taels.
To net premium	326,217.46
To interest	31,436.89
To transfer and certificate fees	33.00
To exchange account	28,514.17
	Taels 384,201.52

Cr.	Taels.
By agency commissions	4,195.58
By charges at head office, branches and agencies	61,860.94
By directors' and auditors' fees	2,450.00
By income tax	1,976.33
By losses and claims	112,754.35
By balance carried forward	200,964.32
	Taels 384,201.52

SUPREME COURT.

Saturday, 18th October.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE CALENDAR.

There were down for disposal 8 cases implicating 14 persons. These included 2 charges of murder, 1 of attempted murder, and a charge of manslaughter against Cheong Hong, contractor, in connection with the fatal collapse of a wall in First Street.

SERIOUS ASSAULT.

The first case called was that in which Leung Yueng was charged with having, on 9th September, assaulted Kong Fu Fong (1) with intent to murder, and (2) with intent to do bodily harm.

Prisoner pleaded not guilty on the first count and guilty on the second count, but asked his Lordship to have mercy upon him as he was under the influence of drink when he committed the assault.

The Attorney-General (Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley) who appeared for the Crown, instructed by Mr. H. L. Denys, Acting Crown Solicitor, said he was prepared to accept this plea. The accused, he went on to say, was employed along with the man whom he had assaulted in the Dart Loong shop. There appeared to have been some quarrel between them of a serious character. Subsequently to the quarrel prisoner entered the shop and behaved in such a way as to put the complainant in great fear. Complainant accordingly retired to a room and declined to come out. Prisoner thereupon broke into the compartment and hacked him in a terrible manner with a chopper. The accused seemed to have been in some degree under the influence of drink when he committed the assault. The complainant got severely cut about the face and sustained a fracture of the skull. He had now almost recovered, but this was a case which required to be dealt with not leniently.

His Lordship said that he was taking into consideration the fact that the prisoner was under the influence of liquor when the assault took place, which prevented him having the full command of himself he otherwise would have had. But if a man found that he became violent and lost control of himself when he took drink that was all the more reason why he should not drink. In the evidence, his Lordship noticed, prisoner was stated to have said—"I will choke him (the complainant) to death." Taking all things into consideration, he thought the justice of the case would be met by a sentence of hard labour for two years.

CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER AGAINST A CONTRACTOR.

The Attorney-General said that before proceeding with the next case, he desired to ask for a special jury in the case in which Cheong Hong, contractor, was charged with manslaughter in connection with the fatal collapse of a wall in First Street. He would ask the Court to fix that case for next Thursday.

His Lordship agreed to this, subject to their being no other cases remaining unheard at that date.

THEFT FROM THE P. AND O.

Wong Kau, junk-owner, was charged with having on 28th June stolen 100 cases of fire-crackers, the property of the P. & O. Co.

He pleaded not guilty.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. R. E. Roberts, E. Aitken, A. G. Roberts, E. M. Bunje, E. J. Judah, J. P. Cottam and F. A. C. Hahn.

The Attorney-General, in his opening statement, said that the prisoner had been employed by a firm in Canton to take 740 packages of fire-crackers to Hongkong to be placed on the P. & O. s.s. *Formosa* to be taken to England. He brought the crackers down in his junk, went alongside the *Formosa* to deliver the goods, and subsequently returned to Canton where he produced a receipt for the delivery of the 740 packages. Some time passed, and one day a telegram came from England to the effect that the crackers were 100 packages short. Enquiries were made, and ultimately it was dis-

covered that these goods were in a godown and that the prisoner was the man who had put them there. It lay with the prisoner to explain why he had put them there and why he had produced the false receipt purporting that the whole 740 packages had been delivered.

Evidence having been given, the jury returned a verdict of guilty.

His Lordship passed sentence of 18 months' imprisonment with hard labour.

The Court adjourned.

Monday, 20th October.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

BURGLARY.

Tsang Wo was put in the dock on a charge of having burglariously entered the house No. 348, Des Vaux Road, on the night of 30th September.

He pleaded not guilty.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. Chiu Hok Lam, J. W. Kew, J. Baptista, K. Muller, J. M. V. Barradas, E. H. Summers, and C. A. H. Westerburger.

The Attorney-General (Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley), who appeared for the Crown, instructed by Mr. H. L. Denys, Acting Crown Solicitor, stated, in opening the case, that it was very simple and short. The prisoner was discovered in the morning in a room of the house in which the complainant was living, endeavouring to make away with what was called a pillow-box, and was arrested on the spot.

Evidence was given by the complainant to the effect that on the morning in question he was awakened from sleep by the noise of one box striking against another. On looking up, he discovered a man in the room carrying the pillow-box. Witness got up and closed the door of the room upon the man, sent his folks for the police, and the defendant was arrested. The box which the burglar was endeavouring to carry away contained \$300 odds, belonging to a friend who had left it with him for safe keeping. The house had been securely closed up at nine o'clock the previous night.

After other evidence, the Attorney-General put in and proved the statement made by the prisoner when he was taken to the police station, which was to the effect that he admitted having been in the house but the door was open and he went in.

On being asked if he had anything further to add, the prisoner said this was a case of oppression. He happened to be passing at the time, and as the real culprit ran away, the people of the house wanted to get somebody, so they knocked him down and took him to the station.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty.

His Lordship said, in passing sentence, that the prisoner had apparently heard from some one that there was this money in the house and had committed burglary in order to obtain it. Three years' imprisonment with hard labour.

ARMED ROBBERY.

Yung Shan, Man Cheung and Man Chun were charged with having, on 22nd July, while armed with choppers, stolen from two sampan women a quantity of jewellery and clothing, comprising a pair of gold-mounted bangles, a pair of jade-stone bangles, a pair of gold and jade-stone earrings, five silver anklets, etc., or, alternatively, with having received the stolen goods.

A plea of not guilty was tendered.

The jury given above also sat in this case.

The Attorney-General said that the prisoners engaged a sampan rowed by two women to take them from Yau-mati to Taikoktsui near the Cosmopolitan Dock. On the way they seized the women, terrorising them with choppers, and robbed them of the articles mentioned. They then landed at Mongkok and made off, but on information given to the police by the victims they were arrested subsequently.

Evidence was taken.

The two first were found guilty of robbery with violence, and the third, against whom only the charge of receiving the goods was pressed, was convicted of that offence.

Sentence was deferred while the prisoners underwent their trial upon other charges.

The next charge against them was that of

having on 21st August at Mongkok received twelve jackets, an apron, a pair of trousers and other goods which had been stolen.

They pleaded not guilty.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. J. D. Osmund, E. J. Figueiredo, F. A. C. Hahn, R. E. Roberts, E. B. Pye, J. D. Auld and R. G. Heckford.

The Attorney-General stated that on the day in question four men engaged a sampan at Pedder's Wharf to go to a place in the New Territory at the other side of Stonecutters' Island. In the sampan were the owner and his wife and a boy of 13 years. When the sampan was near Cheungshawan, one of the passengers seized the owner, knocked him down and threatened to kill him with a chopper if he made a noise. The woman also was threatened. Then the men ransacked the boat and stole a quantity of clothes and so on. They tied up the owner of the boat and also secured the woman in some way. Afterwards they ran the sampan ashore and decamped up the hill with their booty. On 11th September, from information received, the police raided a house in Yau-mati and there found the three prisoners. On a search being made a box was found in their possession containing pawn-tickets which proved to relate to certain of the articles stolen from the sampan on 21st August. The three men were arrested. The sampan man and his wife could not swear that these were the robbers, however.

The jury found the third prisoner guilty as libelled, and the other two not guilty.

Judgment was reserved.

Tuesday, 21st October.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE SHAIKIWAN MURDER.

Li Ut, Wong Kiu and Yan Kiu were charged with having on 31st August at Woungkoktsui murdered a man named Li Ki.

They pleaded not guilty.

The Attorney-General (Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley) appeared for the Crown, instructed by Mr. H. L. Denys, Acting Crown Solicitor; and Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G., barrister-at-law, appeared for the accused.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. E. B. Pye, E. Aitken, E. J. Judah, J. D. Auld, K. Muller, G. Pappier and E. Harvie.

The Attorney-General, in his opening statement, said that the deceased Li Ki was a head coolie at Butterfield and Swire's place at Quarry Bay. Prisoners were employed on one of the lighters in connection with the sugar works. It appeared that there had been some trouble about the theft of an umbrella in the works by the second prisoner, whom the deceased compelled to restore it to the owner. In consequence there was bad blood between them. On the morning of the 31st August the second prisoner went to the police station and complained that he had been assaulted by the deceased. His personal appearance did not appear to bear out the statement, and he was told to come back on the following morning (Monday) and take out a summons in the ordinary course. Later on in the same day the first prisoner also complained to the police that he had been threatened by the deceased man; he also was told to come back on Monday. It would be stated in evidence and also in the deceased's deposition that on the Sunday evening he left Shaukiwan to go to Quarry Bay and on the road was set upon by fifteen men, three of whom were identified by a witness as being the three prisoners. This witness saw the men attacking the deceased. When he came up the men decamped, leaving Li Ki on the ground with skull fractured, arm broken and punctured wounds on the breast—altogether a dreadful sight. Assistance was got, and the injured man was taken to the hospital, where he died, after making a deposition.

In the deposition, which was formally put in, the deceased had stated that he recognised the prisoners as being among the men who assaulted him.

Evidence was afterwards taken.

At the conclusion of the evidence, the hearing

of which lasted till after four o'clock, counsel addressed the jury.

His Lordship, in summing up, said that this case was important, because in the first place these murderous attacks by gangs of coolies upon persons who had incurred their displeasure in some way or other must be checked in the Colony. They had been of frequent occurrence about such places as Quarry Bay, where large numbers of coolies were employed; and these coolies must be taught that they could not take the law into their own hands. It was very important that a brutal murder like this should not go unpunished if they could find out who did it. At the same time, the jury must not let their anxiety to put a stop to these brutal murders do an injustice to the prisoners, and convict them without full evidence against them. In this case there was no intermediate course; the persons who killed the deceased were murderers and not persons guilty of manslaughter. His Lordship, in conclusion, reminded the jury that in a murder case the verdict must be unanimous; if they did not agree the case must be tried again.

The jury retired at five minutes to six o'clock to consider their verdict, and returned at 6.20.

The foreman stated that the jury had unanimously found the prisoners guilty of murder.

The prisoners were asked if they had anything to say why the Court should not pass sentence upon them.

Li Ut protested that he had nothing whatever to do with the matter and knew nothing at all about it. He engaged Wong Kiu on 16th August as a *foki* and knew there had been a quarrel between him and Li Ki about an umbrella, but was not aware of the nature of that quarrel.

Wong Kiu stated that he knew nothing about the assault. Certainly the deceased had been assaulted, but not by him; he remained afloat and was not on shore at all. Li Ki was a friend of his. The evidence given against them was false.

Yau Kiu also said that he knew nothing about this matter and that the charge against them was false.

His Lordship, having put on the black cap, addressed the prisoners. He said—Li Ut, Wong Kiu, Yau Kiu, the jury, after a very careful investigation, have found you by an unanimous verdict guilty of wilful murder. There can be no doubt that the deceased man was most cruelly put to death, and that you were there and took part the jury have found by an unanimous verdict. It only remains to me to pass the sentence which the law imposes for wilful murder, and that sentence upon each of you is that you be taken hence to the place from whence you came and thence to the place of execution, and that you be there hanged by the neck until you be dead, and that your body be buried in such place as His Excellency the Governor shall order. And may the Lord have mercy upon your souls!

The condemned men, who evinced no emotion at the sentence which had been passed upon them, were then removed from the Court to the prison, under escort.

Wednesday, 22nd October.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

ARMED ROBBERY.

Man Chuu, Chung Yau and Yeung Shan were brought up again.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. H. A. Siebs, E. J. Figueiredo, C. M. H. Ahrendt, R. G. Heckford, A. G. I. Somerville, E. H. Summers and A. H. Abbass.

The Attorney-General (Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley), who appeared for the Crown, instructed by Mr. H. L. Denny, Acting Crown Solicitor, said in his opening statement that on 5th September last, while cargo-boat No. 1508 was lying off the Praya at Wanchai, a man came and engaged the boat to go to Tokwouan, near Kowloon City, for the purpose, as he said, of removing some furniture. Terms were agreed upon, and the man went away saying he would send his coolies. Shortly afterwards five coolies came and stated that they had been sent by the man who

engaged the boat. They got on the boat, which thereupon left to go across to Tokwouan. When near that place the coolies asked the owner of the cargo-boat to go below. He refused to do so and they attempted to force him. It appeared that he was a man of courage and resisted strenuously, with the result that he was violently set upon, wounded in the face with a chopper, and finally overpowered. So also were his wife and his *foki*. The coolies, of whom the prisoners were three, then ransacked the boat and stole over \$200 in money and some other property with which they made off on shore. The prisoners were afterwards identified, and arrested by the police.

Evidence was afterwards taken.

The jury found the prisoners guilty as libelled.

His Lordship sentenced Man Chuu to seven years' hard labour and to receive a whipping of 20 strokes; and also to other three years' hard labour for receiving stolen goods of which offence he had been already convicted. The second prisoner, Chung Yau, was sentenced to seven years' hard labour with 20 strokes. Yeung Shan, the third prisoner, got seven years' hard labour with 20 strokes; also other three years' hard labour for an armed robbery of which he had been convicted earlier in the sessions. Man Cheung, who on Monday had been found guilty of robbery with violence in connection with the same gang, was sentenced to five years' hard labour and to receive 20 strokes.

Thursday, 23rd October.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

ARMED ROBBERY.

Yuen Leung and Lee On were charged with having on 16th September committed robbery with violence, and the second prisoner was further charged with having received certain articles which were stolen upon that occasion.

The pleaded not guilty.

The Attorney-General (Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley) appeared for the Crown, instructed by Mr. H. L. Denny, Acting Crown Solicitor; and the first accused was defended by Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., barrister-at-law, instructed by Mr. G. K. H. Brutton, solicitor.

The following jury was empanelled—Messrs. R. Aitken, C. J. T. Lea, A. G. I. Somerville, E. J. Figueiredo, J. P. Cottam, C. M. H. Ahrendt, and R. C. Hurley.

The Attorney-General, in his opening statement, said that the prisoners were charged with having on the morning of the day in question entered the second floor of a house in the Kau Yu Fong and committed armed robbery; the second prisoner was also charged with having received goods that were then stolen. At the time mentioned the first prisoner entered the house and asked if the tenant was at home, calling him by his name. The wife of the occupant replied that he was not at home, whereupon the man rushed upon her and placed his hand over her mouth. Two other men, including the second defendant, as she said, then entered, and between the three of them they did violence to the woman, threatened her with a chopper, and stole certain property, among which were her three finger-rings. These rings were subsequently found by the police when making enquiry among the pawn-shops in the city. In respect of the first prisoner, the woman who was assaulted would identify him beyond all question. In respect of the second prisoner there was the additional evidence of the pawn-shop keeper, who would tell the jury that this prisoner was the man who pawned the rings. From information lodged with the police, the accused were afterwards arrested.

Evidence was then taken.

The jury found both accused not guilty, the second by a majority.

The Russian Acting Minister to Seoul having advised the Korean Government that Mr. Waeber, Russian Envoy to the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Korean Emperor, is shortly expected in Seoul, it is reported that the Korean Government is at loss to know what to do with the Envoy, as the celebration has been postponed.

THE VOLUNTEER CAMP.

The annual instruction camp of the Hong-kong Volunteer Corps at Stonecutters' Island broke up on the 20th inst., after ten days' duration. On the 18th inst. the Garrison Artillery and Engineer units were inspected respectively by Lieut.-Colonel Johnson, commanding Royal Artillery, and Major Baker Brown, commanding Engineers, with in each case very satisfactory results. After the inspection Lieut.-Colonel Johnson expressed his appreciation of the display made by the Volunteers, and said that, considering the short time they had been on the guns, their work was in many respects wonderful for its excellence. It would afford him great pleasure indeed, he said, to report in these terms to Colonel Brown.

Shortly after eleven o'clock on Saturday night an alarm bugle call brought the Volunteers at the double to the parade-ground, where they formed up in the clothes they were wearing when the call blared out. Conjectures were of course rife as to the reason for the turn-out, and whilst some held that it was an outbreak of fire others again were just as positive that a night attack was meditated. Neither guess was correct, however, for Commandant Pritchard explained that he simply wished to tell them how pleased he too was with the result of the afternoon's inspection. He also commented favourably on the strength of the present parade, considering the circumstances under which it was held.

On Sunday morning, after church service, which was conducted by the Rev. E. J. Hardy, Chaplain to the Forces, the general inspection was made by Colonel Brown, Senior Officer Commanding the Troops, who, at its termination, had the same optimistic expressions to make as had been passed on the previous day. Colonel Brown, who was accompanied by Major Denny, D.A.A.G., commented on the favourable report concerning the Corps that had been made to him by Colonel Johnson, and trusted that the good start thus made would be followed up zealously and improved upon in time to the farthest possible limit. There was just one thing he wished to point out: half of the Corps, he had been informed by Commandant Pritchard, were absent, and their absence had been explained by the fact that they did not like the remodelling of the Corps and the converting of it into a Garrison Artillery force. In that connection, went on Colonel Brown, he desired to say that their greatest possibilities of usefulness lay in their existence as Garrison Artillery (for reasons which he detailed), and that being so he desired very greatly to see a recrudescence of enthusiasm amongst those who were not favourably disposed towards the important step that had been taken. When the time came, if it ever should come, concluded Colonel Brown, he wished to see the Hongkong Volunteer Corps "Ready, aye ready."

This completed the inspection on the parade-ground, and immediately afterwards the Officer Commanding made a tour of the tents, the condition of which he also commented upon favourably.

In the afternoon many visitors came over to the camp, where the band of the 33rd Burma's played at intervals. There were no organised sports, contrary to precedent, but as couple of tugs-of-war provided a strong element of interest, the performance of the old Field Battery men against a team hopelessly overmatching them in size and weight evoking applause. The Field Battery lost, but only from the cause indicated; in other respects they were the better team.

Previous to the breaking-up of the camp, the following extract from the Corps Orders of the day was read:—The Commandant desires it to be known that he is very pleased with the work done during the camp both by the Artillery and the Engineer units. He hopes that those who have proved themselves efficient during this period will continue to keep up their drills regularly until the end of the drill season, and that they will use their influence to induce other members of the Corps to make themselves efficient. The Officer Commanding the Troops expressed his great satisfaction to-day (Sunday) at the smart appearance of the Corps, and more especially at the very neat and uniform manner in which the tents were kept.

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. v. DEPARTING GARRISON.

It was a happy idea on the part of the executive of the H.K.C.C. to bring together a team composed of those members of the garrison who will soon leave us, to do battle against the Club on the 18th inst., and a very enjoyable game was the result. Ward won the toss for the Club, and sent in Maitland and Turner to face the bowling of Fawcett and Hayhurst. Both batsmen played well, though Maitland was somewhat lucky, and the board recorded 75 runs before Turner, who had played sound cricket throughout, was caught at cover-point for a capital 34. On Moore joining Maitland, another good stand was made, though Moore was also favoured by fortune, and at one o'clock they were still together with the score at 110. After tiffin the two batsmen continued their hitting and were not separated until the total had reached 183, Maitland being then bowled for a hard hit 82. Moore did not stay long afterwards, and was well caught by Hayhurst for a vigorous 60. None of the other batsmen did very much and the whole side was out for 248. Hayhurst met with great success after tiffin, capturing 5 wickets for 22 runs. Fawcett bowled well throughout and with any luck his analysis would have been much better. The fielding was fair, though the Club score would have been very much smaller if all the chances had been accepted. With only two hours left for play the match seemed safe from the Club's point of view, as there was ample time in which to get rid of their opponents and not time for the Garrison to make the runs. As events turned out, however, the Club had to work hard to avoid defeat and, with a little more time it is probable that the Garrison would have secured a well-earned victory. Campbell and James did not give any very serious trouble, but Hayhurst and Wynne made a splendid stand and were not separated until the score had reached 96; Hayhurst then retired for a very fine innings of 53. He hit hard and well all round the wicket, and though he made one or two uppish strokes, he did not give an actual chance. Wynne and Fawcett continued the scoring and numerous changes in the bowling failed to bring about the desired separation until 53 more had been added to the score. Wynne was then bowled for an invaluable if somewhat lucky innings of 56. Fawcett continued to play sound cricket, but was eventually beautifully caught by Turner for a capital 39. It was at this stage of the game that the hopes of the Club supporters seemed brightest, but it is the unexpected which generally happens, and Clapham, favoured somewhat extensively by "Dame Fortune," not only saved his side from defeat but shattered the hopes of his opponents. His 37 not out was an invaluable innings to his side, and every credit is due to him for his plucky effort. Pearce and Dixon were the most successful of the Club bowlers, but both proved somewhat expensive. The Club fielding was better than usual and no catches were missed until the light became too bad for accurate judging. It was unfortunate that the game should have been started so late, as the 50 minutes wasted at the beginning of the day would have been quite sufficient to enable the match to be brought to a definite conclusion. The following are the scores and analyses:—

THE CLUB.

F. Maitland, b Stafford	82
W. C. D. Turner, c Campbell, b Fawcett	34
G. Moore, R.N., c France-Hayhurst, b Fawcett	60
S. Powell, c Campbell, b Fawcett	3
T. E. Pearce, b Stafford	6
A. G. Ward (Capt.), c Preedy, b France-Hayhurst	14
J. Hooper, c Wynne, b France-Hayhurst	15
W. Dixon, st Venables, b France-Hayhurst	12
H. W. Smith, R.A., c Campbell, b France-Hayhurst	0
Capt. Tulloch, R.A., c Clapham, b France-Hayhurst	8
A. R. Lowe, not out	1
Extras	13
Total	248

DEPARTING GARRISON.				
Capt. Campbell, H.K.R., c Smith, b Dixon	1			
Q.M.S. James, R.A., b Dixon	10			
Major Wynne, R.A. (Capt.), b Lowe	56			
Lieut. France-Hayhurst, R.W.F., c Smith, b Pearce	53			
Capt. Fawcett, R.A., c Turner, b Dixon	39			
Lieut. Moberley, H.K.R., c Dixon, b Pearce	12			
Lieut. Venables, R.W.F., b Pearce	4			
Capt. Clapham, R.A., not out	37			
Corp. Preedy, R.W.F., not out	4			
Gunner Breech, R.A.				
Bandsman Stafford, R.W.F.				
Extras	10			
Total (7 wickets)	226			

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

THE CLUB.				
Fawcett	19	1	72	3
France-Hayhurst	8.5	—	39	5
Preedy	7	—	35	—
Breech	7	—	34	—
Campbell	3	—	26	—
Stafford	8	—	29	2

DEPARTING GARRISON.

Dixon	21	3	73	3
Lowe	11	4	33	1
Powell	4	—	29	—
Turner	2	—	23	—
Pearce	12	2	46	3
Moore	5	1	12	—

CIVIL SERVICE C. C. v. QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

The match between the Civil Service C. C. and Queen's College Past and Present was played at the Happy Valley on the 18th inst. The former batted first, but were all dismissed for 31 runs, due chiefly to some good bowling on the opposite side. Conolly was the only Civil Service man who managed to put in double figures. For the Queen's College Har team and Pestonji played a steady game and were responsible for a well played 35 and 26 not out respectively. Stumps were drawn at 5.15 p.m., Queen's College winning the match by 10 wickets and 51 runs. The following are the scores:—

CIVIL SERVICE C.C.

R. C. Witchell, c Suffaid, b Pestonji	0
R. H. A. Craig, b Har team	0
P. O'Donnell, c Heung Kwok Leung, b Pestonji	2
A. Barrington, run out	1
— Morton, b Pestonji	0
T. P. Conolly, run out	13
P. T. Lamble, b Pestonji	6
A. Brown, c Suffaid, b Ismail	6
G. J. W. King, not out	1
J. McMichael, b Ismail	0
H. J. Knight, run out	0
Extras	2
Total	31

QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

M. H. Har team, not out	35
R. Soonderam, c Witchell, b Craig	18
R. Pestonji, not out	26
Extras	3
Total (for 1 wicket)	82

S. A. Ismail, S. E. Ismail, H. Taylor, H. P. Madar, S. Har team, M. Suffaid, H. K. Leung, S. S. Kwong, did not bat.

FOOTBALL.

H.K.F.C. v. 62ND CO., R.A.

On the 18th inst. the opening game of the season was played on the ground of the Hongkong Football Club between the Club and the 62nd Company, R.A. There was a large attendance, and there was much curiosity evinced with regard to the manner in which the re-organised Club team would comport itself. The teams were as follows:—

H.K.F.C.—C. T. Kew, goal; E. J. Davis, and W. G. Worcester, backs; H. S. Holmes, J. W. Bonnar, and I. V. Bennett, halves; H. A. Seth, W. H. Rutherford, C. R. S. Cooper, A. Humphreys, and S. Cooke, forwards.

R.A.—Gunner Byrne, goal; Corporal Crawley and Sergeant James, backs; Gunners Castleton and Guest and Bombadier Webber, halves; Gunners Gray, Loughlin and Phinn, Bombadier Reynolds and Gunner Caldwell, forwards.

Referee—Mr. Harrison, H.M.S. Blenheim. Line-men—Mr. C. C. Hickling and Gunner McGee, R.A.

The R.A. won the toss, and the Club kicked off with the sun in their eyes. Their initial rush was checked by the ball being sent into touch. From the throw-in the R.A. pressed and Kew had to run out to save. A minute

later, the Club's goalkeeper had to concede a corner, from which nothing resulted. Another corner followed almost immediately: this was also unfruitful. Then the Club had a look in. Their forward division carried the play rapidly down the field, but weak shooting resulted in a bye. There was no mistake about their next attack, however. The goal-kick was sent back into the R.A. territory, and Cooper, getting the ball at his feet, hustled through the backs and sent in a stinging shot at close quarters which Byrne was quite unable to turn. It was not long before the Artillery retaliated. Following upon some mid-field play, Phinn got an opportunity to shoot and put in a low, straight kick which should apparently have been easy to stop, but somehow or other the ball slipped through Kew's hands and into the net. Encouraged by this the Artillery pressed hard again and within a minute's time they had scored a second goal, the honour on this occasion falling to Gray, who beat Kew with a swift shot from the right while on the run. Play was afterwards transferred to the Artillery end of the field, but the Club's shooting was weak and ineffectual. The R.A. were having the best of the game and showing far superior combination. Soon a third point was added to their score: Caldwell on the left carried the ball well up the wing and shot across the goal; Loughlin did the rest by heading neatly into the net. When half-time arrived the score was:—

R.A.—3 goals; Club, 1 goal.

The start of the second half saw a continuation of the Club's ill-fortune. From the kick-off, the R.A. carried the play towards their opponent's goal, and Loughlin got a chance to shoot which he took full advantage of, banging the ball into the corner of the net. In the passages which followed, the Artillery had all the best of the game and did most of the pressing. Cooper worked hard for the Club and made several essays which good combination might have turned to account; but that essential quality was conspicuous by its absence. More familiarity on the part of the team with each other's play will make this all right, however. Cooke on the Club's outside left made several fine runs and showed a good turn of speed as well as accurate placing; his tries failed for want of support on two occasions. On the whole the R.A. forwards were a speedy lot and their back division made a strong defence. Cooper managed to elude the latter's attentions on occasion. Once he had an individual run right up to the goal-mouth and was prevented from scoring only at the last moment. A period of uninteresting play was relieved by another goal by Phinn. Then Seth stole away up the right wing to pay a return visit to the R.A., but he had to be content with the concession of a corner. Following upon the corner-kick there was a scrimmage in front of the R.A. goal, in the course of which Humphreys sent in a good shot; unfortunately for the Club, the ball struck the cross-bar and went behind. Webber had a run on his own account shortly afterwards and got deservedly applauded for his effort, though it proved fruitless. Time was called with the score standing:—

R.A., 5 goals; Club, 1 goal.

IMPERIAL RIFLE MATCH.

The Hongkong team, we are informed, will shoot off this match on Wednesday, the 29th inst. Firing commences at 2.30 p.m. Team:—

Messrs. D. Baldwin, Sergt. Cross, R.M.L.I., G. P. Lammert, J. Pidgeon, W. Stackwood, R. Stewart, J. Marshall, Sergt. Griffiths, R.M.L.I., F. Penning, and R. Lapsley.

Reserves—Q.M.S. West, R.E., and Sapper M'Ewan, R.E.

A big robbery of jewelry took place in Singapore on the 10th inst. Information reached the police at 7 p.m. that jewelry of the value of \$1,181 had been stolen from Mrs. Knecker and Miss Poulsen, of 171, Serangoon Road. Two inspectors went to the house to make enquiries, but could find no clue as to who was the thief. In subsequent searches, however, they found some of the jewelry, to the value of about \$150, in a pawnshop, and the pawnbroker was promptly arrested. It is thought that the man who committed the robbery has gone over to Johore.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

The following scores were returned:—

MACEWEN CUP.

Mr. W. J. Saunders	95	15	=	80
Mr. E. A. Ram	95	15	=	80
Mr. W. D. Kraft	95	15	=	80
Mr. W. L. Martin, R.N.	97	14	=	83
Mr. C. W. May	90	6	=	84
Mr. C. P. Chater	101	16	=	85
Mr. E. J. Grist	91	5	=	86
Mr. G. Stewart	91	4	=	87
Mr. A. B. Lowson	94	6	=	88
Mr. J. K. Raymond, R.N.	103	9	=	94
Mr. H. E. R. Hunter	109	15	=	94

27 entries.

BOGEY AND RICHARDSON CUPS.

Mr. W. D. Kraft	rec.	11	stroke	down
Mr. T. S. Forrest	owes	2		
Mr. W. J. Saunders	rec.	11		
Mr. E. A. Ram	rec.	11		
Mr. C. W. May	rec.	5		
Mr. W. L. Martin, R.N.	rec.	10		
Mr. G. Stewart	rec.	3		
Mr. E. J. Grist	rec.	4		
Mr. H. E. R. Hunter	rec.	11		

26 entries.

POOL.

Mr. W. J. Saunders	95	15	=	80
Mr. E. A. Ram	95	15	=	80
Mr. W. D. Kraft	95	15	=	80
Mr. T. S. Forrest	79	2	=	81
Mr. C. W. May	89	6	=	83
Mr. C. P. Chater	101	16	=	85
Dep. Ins. Gen. Drew, R.N.	99	15	=	84
Mr. T. C. Gray	106	22	=	84
Mr. E. J. Grist	91	5	=	86
Mr. G. Stewart	91	4	=	87
Mr. A. B. Lowson	94	6	=	88
Mr. H. E. R. Hunter	109	15	=	94

23 entries.

PORTSMOUTH LETTER.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

RETURN OF H.M.S. "TERRIBLE."

Portsmouth, 24th September.

On the 24th March, 1898, the noted cruiser *Terrible* was commissioned, and after an eventful 4 years and 178 days she returned to Portsmouth late on the evening of the 18th inst. and into harbour yesterday. It is too well known in China what the vessel has done during her commission, so I will only give a few of the most important events that have occurred on the homeward voyage. It may be mentioned that it was four years yesterday that the *Terrible* sailed from this port.

In the course of her commission the *Terrible* has consumed 68,000 tons of coal, which is about double the quantity usually consumed by ships in one commission. Coming home she burnt on an average 270 tons a day, no less than 70 tons a day being required for the auxiliary engines alone. She took on board 2,600 tons at Port Said and 700 tons at Malta. She is now very light, her water-line being three or four feet above the surface of the water. The cruiser had a fine passage from the Far East, and fortunately there has been no mishap. The heat was very trying in the Red Sea, but once in the Suez Canal all discomfort from high temperature was at an end. The vessel, enormous as she is, came through the Canal, as one of her officers remarked, "like a skiff." The passage through the Canal occupied about 21 hours, a stoppage being necessary at Ismailia to enable some vessels to get clear. No tugs were used, but one followed in the wake of the cruiser for use if the necessity should arise.

Among the invalids who were embarked for passage home were Petty Officer Martin, of the river gunboat *Sandpiper* and Able Seaman Babb, of the receiving-ship *Tanar*, who were removed from the Hongkong Hospital. Both died after leaving Hongkong, and Martin was buried at sea; but the body of Babb was landed at Singapore and interred there.

The cruiser arrived at Plymouth on the 16th, and when inside the western end of the break-water salutes were exchanged and Admiral Lord Charles Scott, Commander-in-Chief of the western port, paid a visit and was received by Capt. Percy Scott.

Of the ship's company nearly 100 belong to

Plymouth, and the arrival of the vessel was awaited with considerable anxiety. As soon as the great vessel, with her four funnels, came in sight, hundreds of relatives and friends of those on board, as well as many curious sight-seers assembled on the shore, nearly all eager for news as to how long the *Terrible* would remain in port, and whether men belonging to the locality would be given leave. It was therefore, with the greatest satisfaction that it was learnt later in the day that the *Terrible* would remain for more than a day, and all natives of the place and district were given leave at once. The vessel was quickly besieged with tradesmen; but the occupants of numerous bum-boats were given to understand that the *Terrible* was not to be turned into a temporary general store for their benefit, and if any annoyance was felt at the order it was certainly not shared by the crew, and the port side of the ship presented an animated scene. In spite of the bustle on board, snatches of conversation were to be obtained with those who had served in the ship from the time of her commissioning, and no matter what topic was broached at the outset, the theme never failed to work round to the central figure of the *Terrible*, Captain Percy Scott. A correspondent in Devonport writes after an interview with some one on board and gives a version as follows:—

"We thought we had caught a Tartar when he first came to the *Terrible*, but he has turned out one of the best men in the British Navy," said one far. "He is a sensible man at bottom. The routine here is unlike that on any other ship in the Navy, and it would be a difficult matter to better it. Every man on the ship has supper at 7.15, and you can best find out how much that is appreciated by consulting the crew. For eighteen months, or thereabouts, before the Food Committee sat, we had adopted and carried out on the *Terrible* all the recommendations the committee eventually made so far as meal-times are concerned."

Vice-Admiral Sir E. Seymour sent a wire directly he knew of the arrival, and Capt Scott had it posted on the notice-board. It was as follows:—

"I wish you, if you think fit, to let your officers and ship's company know the pleasure I have in welcoming them home, and that to my appreciation of their services I desire to add my best wishes for their welfare."

It was anticipated that the vessel would arrive here on the morning of the 17th, consequently a great number of people came into the town and the main gate of the dockyard was besieged with anxious enquirers and a large number of visitors came into the town by train in the hope of witnessing the greetings of the town. The vessel remained at Plymouth until 7 a.m., on the 18th, and arrived at Spithead at about 7 p.m. and anchored, Capt. Scott, with all thoughtfulness, at once gave general leave for the night and needless to say this thoughtfulness was much appreciated, and by 6.30 the following morning all were aboard. At 8 a.m., the ordinary salutes were exchanged and people then flocked to the front and by 8.30 a goodly crowd had assembled from Eastney to the Harbour, and as the stately craft steamed from her moorings she was loudly cheered. At 9 o'clock the vessel entered the harbour and was moored alongside the south railway jetty. Twenty minutes afterwards all wives, children, and sweethearts were allowed on board and many a heart was gladdened. Mrs. Percy Scott and her boy were of the first on board.

Captain Scott landed and proceeded to Admiralty House to report his arrival, and received a hearty welcome from Admiral Hotham.

On all sides nothing but praise was heard of the gallant Captain. He had worked his men hard, and had brought the ship to a state of efficiency not to be found in many vessels, but the crew were proud of their "skipper" and of what he had done. On the main deck there were some of the celebrated Ladysmith guns on their improvised carriages, inscribed "From Ladysmith to Peking." For service in North China the *Terrible* landed one 4.7 gun and five 12-pounders, and about 200 officers and men. The bluejackets have but a poor opinion of the Chinaman's fighting qualities, especially at close quarters. He could not stand cold steel, but the Chinese artillery practice with the modern guns was particularly good.

One fixture on the upper deck which was pointed out with pride was Captain Scott's invention for training his men how to load a 6-inch gun expeditiously, and it was the constant practice with this that secured the *Terrible* her splendid gunnery record. In a massive wooden upright, the breech-block of a 6-inch gun had been fixed, and a trough represented the barrel of the gun just inside the breech. The training consisted in the gun's crew lifting the 100-lb. projectile and pushing it through the breech for about six or eight feet, when it rolled down an inclined board to the deck. In landing a gun, delay is necessarily caused by care having to be exercised in inserting the projectile, but by means of this apparatus the men could after a short course land and fire twice as rapidly as before. The "Dotter," another invention connected with shooting, was also pointed out and explained to groups of admiring visitors.

One feature of the commission, which all hands are agreed has been a particularly "happy" one, is that a supper has been provided for the men at quarter-past seven, and that it has been appreciated by the crew was evident by the enthusiasm with which they referred to the matter. "In fact," said one of the Petty Officers, "for twelve or fifteen months before the Food Committee sat, we had carried out most of the Admiral Rice's Committee's suggestions."

As with all home-coming ships, the bluejackets have brought home plenty of pets. Scores of monkeys of all kinds were brought aboard, principally at Colombo, but a large number soon died, and "a good job, too," was the opinion of one man, for the creatures were a nuisance. Birds and parrots, too, were plentiful, and in parts the mess had the appearance of a small aviary. But the special pet of the ship's company was "Nelly," a particularly rare breed of spotted deer, which Captain Percy Scott purchased at Hongkong. On the voyage home the graceful little creature has been allowed to gambol about the decks, and the bluejackets have taught her a number of tricks. One of the most popular forms of amusement is to make "Nelly" box, an standing on her hind legs she makes quite a creditable display in the "noble art of self-defence," or she will stand on her hind legs and affectionately place her fore feet on a person's shoulders.

The Mayor of Portsmouth, Major W. T. Dupree, who has been on a holiday to Wiesbaden, returned last evening specially to give the Town's welcome, and this morning he paid an official visit to the ship and was received by Captain Percy Scott, C.B., and officers, and on behalf of the inhabitants expressed the pleasure it gave him to welcome them to Portsmouth, and invited them all and the crew to a big banquet on the 22nd, which was accepted. On that occasion the *Terribles* will march from the ship preceded by the bands of the R.M.A. and H.M.S. *Excellent*, the streets being lined by garrison troops and volunteers; the houses will be gaily decorated.

WEIHAIWEI.

A general report by Mr. G. T. Hare, Acting Assistant Commissioner, dated Weihaiwei, April, 1902, was issued last month amongst the miscellaneous series of Colonial Reports. In the course of this Mr. Hare states:—

The territory leased comprises the island of Liu Kung and all the islands in the bay of Weihaiwei and a belt of land, 10 English miles wide, along the entire coast line of the bay. It is an easy place for shipping to make, and steamers can load and discharge cargo here in any wind. There is no other harbour in China where battleships and ocean steamers can lie so close to the shore. The leased territory was surveyed in 1899 by a reconnaissance party of Royal Engineers and mapped on a scale of two inches to one mile. The total area was fixed at about 285 square miles, including the island of Liu Kung. The sphere of influence comprising that part of the province lying east of the meridian (121.4°), along the sea shore, over which the British Government holds certain military rights, was surveyed on a scale of one and a half inches to a mile, and its area fixed at about 1,505 square miles.

The leased territory consists of ranges of rugged mountains and rocky hills up to 1,500 ft. high, dividing the plains up into valleys and river beds.

The island of Liu Kung is barren and nearly treeless. The hillsides on the mainland are either barren rock or planted with dwarf pine and scrub oak trees. The valleys are mostly undulating country full of gullies and mountain river beds; the streams are all torrential and choke up the valleys with sand and debris from the hills. During three-quarters of the year these river beds are dry. All the hills are terraced for cultivation as far as possible. The strata of the mountains are metamorphic, consisting of beds of quartzite, gneiss, crystalline and limestone cut across by dykes of volcanic rock and granite. Gold is found in the territory and has been worked by the Chinese, and silver, tin, lead and iron are said to exist.

The territory contains some 330 villages, and the population is estimated to be 123,750. There are four small markets where fairs are held every five days. There is no local industry, but a little rope-making, boat-building, line-making and stone-cutting is done. The Chinese inhabitants are either fishermen or farmers. The chief crops grown are maize, millet, wheat, sweet potatoes, buckwheat, turnips, beans, and peanuts. The food of the Chinese is cereals, fish, vegetables, or eggs. Very little fruit is cultivated. The scrub oak is grown to some extent for the maintenance of the silkworms. The raw silk produced is sold to the Chinese silk filature at Chefoo.

There is no export trade except in salt fish, which is carried in Chinese junks to Southern China. The import trade is not large, and is also carried on in Chinese junks. It consists of timber, firewood, and maize from Manchuria and paper, crockery, sugar, and tobacco from Southern China. The average yearly import of maize is about 50,000 piculs, valued at \$250,000. The value of the salt fish exported is about \$50,000 per annum. Most foreign goods, are brought from Chefoo by junk to Weihaiwei, consisting of piece goods, yarns, oils, matches and sugar.

The village communities are administered through their headmen in accordance with Chinese laws and usages, and the people have now entirely acquiesced in the newly-established regime. All purely civil matters are left as much as possible to the village chiefs. Difficulty is experienced in getting the village headmen to take any active steps in criminal matters, and very few persons will give evidence against their own village people. As a class, the natives of the territory are law-abiding and well behaved, are illiterate and very indigent. The territory is over-populated, and too poor to support its population, and thousands of villagers emigrate yearly to Manchuria and Corea. There is, perhaps, no place in China occupied by foreigners where labour is so cheap.

Weihaiwei is now a fairly regular port of call for many China coasting steamers sailing northwards from Shanghai during the summer months, and there is a small steamer subsidised by Government to run all the year carrying mails and passengers between Chefoo and Weihaiwei. This enables the public to reach Weihaiwei by water via Shanghai and Chefoo at any time of the year.

The climate of Weihaiwei is exceptionally good, and the winter, though cold, is dry and bracing. The maximum temperature is about 90 degrees Fahrenheit in the shade, and the minimum about 10 degrees Fahrenheit. The place is windy at times. There is an excellent beach for sea bathing on the island and mainland. The summer heat is not great, and the rainfall is very small, averaging about 20 inches per annum. As the settlement is healthier than the other treaty ports in China, there is every prospect of Weihaiwei becoming a very popular health resort in future. Apart from its almost perfect climate, its freedom from malaria, and the absence of all epidemics amongst the Chinese, the Settlement itself offers effectual security to foreign residents, with freedom to travel about at pleasure in the leased area without fear of being molested by the Chinese, or being subjected to any of the usual unpleasantnesses and inconveniences foreigners have to put up with in China inland.

An European school has already been established at Weihaiwei, and a land and building society, formed in Shanghai, has already erected several commodious European bungalows and a large hotel on the mainland. Both on the mainland and on the island good roads have been

made round the coast by the local Government for the convenience of foreigners and there are recreation and parade grounds kept by the Admiralty and War Office in both places.

The native city of Weihaiwei (which lies on the mainland opposite the island of Liu Kung) is a walled town of about 2,000 inhabitants. By the provisions of the Weihaiwei Convention of 1898 this town still remains under the jurisdiction of the Chinese authorities. The town is a poor one, and greater portion of the enclosed area is not built on, but cultivated for vegetables. The market or fair held three times a month is the largest in the Settlement. A Chinese sub-district deputy magistrate and a military sergeant reside in the town of Weihaiwei. These two officers are subordinates of the Prefect of T'ing Chou Fu.

The Settlement of Weihaiwei is declared a free port. No custom duties of any kind are collected. By agreement, the Chinese Government is permitted to make use of the bay of Weihaiwei for its fleet, so far as is compatible with British interests.

It is not the present intention of His Majesty's Government to re-fortify the station, but to retain it as a flying naval base, and as a depot, drill-ground and sanatorium for the China squadron in North China.

All official communications with the Provisional Government of Shantung are conducted by the Commissioner direct without reference to the Consular authorities of the Foreign Office in China. The revenue derived from the leased territory on the mainland is collected from the following sources:—(1) Land tax; (2) junk registrations and wharfage dues, wine and opium monopolies; and (3) fines of Court and other miscellaneous sources. In 1900 the total revenue collected amounted to \$4,077, out of which the land tax accounted for \$1,824.

JAPANESE EXPLORATION IN CENTRAL ASIA.

A correspondent writes to a contemporary:—“Japan gives frequent instance nowadays of her desire to ascertain the truth in all things. One of the most interesting of these is the archaeological expedition which has just left for Central Asia under the management of Count Otani Kozui and Mr. Watanabe Tetsushin. Count Otani is a member of the Royal Geographical Society. The purpose of the expedition is to search for Buddhist remains in Central Asia, India, and China and to trace as far as is possible the course of Buddhism from its source northwards and eastwards to Japan. The members of the party, seven in number, are all Japanese. Count Otani's father, Otani Kozon, now living in Kyoto, is Lord Abbot of Nihi Hongwan-ji, the monastery of the “Original Vow,” and a direct descendant of the Shin Shin sect, who lived in the 11th century. Count Otani Kozui has been an extensive traveller, and was elected a member of the Royal Geographical Society because of his explorations in China. His father sent him to Jerusalem to study Christianity and Mahomedanism, and on his own initiative he visited Iceland, and spent the best part of a year in the Arctic circle. He is an enthusiastic student of Sanskrit and ancient Chinese, and has done much original work in the Oriental room of the British Museum. All the members of the expedition have been preparing for this work for several years. Mr. Watanabe Tetsushin has been studying Church history with a priest of the Church of England, and has paid particular attention to the Nestorians, who wandered from Constantinople off into Asia in the fifth century. He lived in St. Petersburg one year and speaks Russian fluently. Mr. Hori Masuo, who will look after the surveys and the map-making, has been studying topography in Oxford. Mr. Inouye, a veteran of the Sino-Japanese war, in which it will be remembered the Japanese showed wonderful ability in matters of transport, will have charge of the impedimenta. Mr. Fujii Sensho, Ph.D., is well versed in Chinese and Japanese Buddhist literature. He has been studying Sanskrit in Berlin and Paris, and has already been several times to India. Though the amount of money that Nishi Hongwan-ji can put at their disposal is practically unlimited, Mr. Watanabe does not expect the cost to be excessive.”

HONGKONG.

A coolie was killed at Shek Shan, in the Yau-mati district, on Wednesday afternoon, by the fall of an embankment at the foot of which he was excavating.

During the day ended at noon on Wednesday one (fatal) case of plague was reported in the Colony. The victim, a Chinese, died at 25, Gough Street.

H.M. The King's signature of the *exequatur* empowering Cavaliere Z. Volpicelli to act as Consul-General of Italy at Hongkong is notified in the *Gazette*.

In the Wigwam lawn-tennis tournaments J. A. Woodgates (rec. 15) on the 18th inst. won the “A” Class Singles, beating F. Yeats (owes 30) by 3 sets to 1 (9-7, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3). On Saturday Sims (owes 3/6 of 15) beat Brown (scratch) in the “B” Class Singles.

The excellent band of the 2nd Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers played their farewell programme on the Parade Ground Wednesday evening. There was a large attendance. Bandmaster Moir and his men have done a great deal during the time they have been stationed here to relieve the monotony of every-day life, and they are well deserving of the thanks of the community.

Mr. Arthur Seymour, the representative of the Janet Waldorf Company, arrived on the s.s. *Australian* on the 21st, via Manila, to make arrangements for a theatrical season in Hongkong commencing about the 17th November. The Company consists of twenty-six members and brings with it a strong repertoire containing some of the newest and most successful dramas and comedies of the day.

On the 21st inst., the old military custom of “crying down credit” was observed in connection with the 1st Derbyshire Regiment (Sherwood Foresters). It is one of the army regulations that when a regiment arrives at any town in which it is to be stationed, a proclamation is read warning all concerned not to give credit to the new arrivals, as the Government will not stand guarantor for debts incurred and will not allow any member of the regiment to be imprisoned for debt. The proclamation was read yesterday at various points in the city, and the proceeding was observed with much interest by the passers-by. At each point, the reading of the notice was preceded by the beating of a big drum.

An alarming incident occurred in Praya East about eight o'clock on the 21st inst. Two buffalo cows were being led along, when a couple of China ponies harnessed to milk-vans approached from the opposite direction. Just as the ponies drew almost level, one of the cows rushed at them. The Chinese youth in charge of her did all he could to restrain the animal, which simply dragged him along at the end of the halter like a straw, and attacked the nearest pony, goring it frightfully in the leg and chest. The infuriated cow then turned upon the second pony, which fortunately escaped with only a slight wound in the right foreleg. The buffalo looked like becoming unmanageable, but as soon as the ponies were led away she quietened down and became quite tractable.

On Wednesday the s.s. *James Brand* arrived in the harbour with the German s.s. *Tai Lee* in tow, and both dropped anchor in Kowloon Bay. The *James Brand* left Shanghai on 12th October for Samboe (Singapore), and on her way south experienced the customary north-east monsoon. When in lat. 14.22N. long. 122.43E. on 18th October, she picked up the *Tai Lee* disabled, with over 600 Chinese passengers on board. The master of the German steamer stated that he wanted to be towed to Hongkong. Ropes were accordingly run away and towing hawsers were connected. A fresh monsoon was blowing at the time. On 19th October the towing hawsers parted and with much difficulty were reconnected after seven hours' work. Owing to the heavy sea that was running, while this operation was being carried out, lines had to be made fast to each ship to keep them in position. On the following day the *James Brand*'s patent steering-gear gave out, and the engines had to be eased and the ship put under hand gear while the necessary repairs were carried out. This was successfully accomplished in the end, and both vessels arrived without further mishap in Hongkong after five days' towing, a distance of 500 miles.

Only one case of communicable disease was reported in the Colony last week, the victim, a Chinese woman, succumbing to puerperal fever.

The police reported on the 21st inst. that a Chinaman was killed at the Quarry Bay dock-yard works on the previous day by an accidental fall into a drain.

The number of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum during the week ending 19th inst. was 227 non-Chinese and 72 Chinese to the former, and 51 non-Chinese and 2,230 Chinese to the latter.

On the 18th inst. the members of the Lusitano Club gave a very enjoyable *soirée*, under the guidance of their new President, Mr. J. de Salarisa Alves; the Band of the Burma Regt. was in attendance. Dancing started at 5 p.m. and was kept up enthusiastically to 8.30 p.m. It looks as if this was given as a rehearsal for the re-establishment of the old "Terpsichore" Society, of which Mr. Alves was the promoter years ago.

The *Hongay*, which sailed for Haiphong on the 18th inst. under the command of Capt. G. Parker, is the latest product of Messrs. W. S. Bailey & Co.'s Shipbuilding Works at Kowloon Bay. She is built of teakwood and is of the following dimensions:—Length over all, 79ft.; breadth, 14ft.; depth (moulded), 7ft. 3in. She is fitted with compound condensing engines having 16in. and 20in. cylinders and steam is supplied by an ordinary marine-type boiler 7ft. 3in. diam. by 8ft. long. The vessel will be used as a tug-boat for sea-going as well as riverine service. She ran her trials last week and registered a speed of 10½ knots, while, by the way, the contract stipulated for 10 knots only. She has a complete outfit of deck and engine-room tools, and furnishings for the deck and engine-rooms. The owners of the *Hongay* are the Société Française des Charbonnages du Tonkin, and Mr. E. Johansen supervised her construction on their behalf. Her delivery was retarded by a few days on account of the August typhoons and the recent strike of ship-carpenters. The builders consider her one of the best boats of her class turned out by them. A similar tug, also destined for service in French Indo-China, is at present in course of completion at the same yard.

The German gunboat *Tiger* left for Pakhoi on the 18th inst.

The British cruiser *Talbot* arrived on the 20th inst. from Mirs Bay and the U.S. transport *Nanshan* from Manila. The gunboat *Espiegle* left for practice.

H.M.S. *Albion* came out of dock about one o'clock yesterday, and proceeded to her buoy under her own steam. On Tuesday evening the ship's company gave a concert at the Docks.

On Thursday the British surveying-ship *Waterwitch* left the harbour for Mirs Bay.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On the 7th inst. a meeting of British residents in Nagasaki was held, when it was decided to adhere to the original programme arranged for the 26th June. It will be carried out therefore on the 8th prox.

A portrait of the late Archdeacon Shaw, who for thirty years was engaged in missionary work in Japan, was recently unveiled in S. Andrew's Hall, Tokyo, by Lady MacDonald, wife of H. M. Minister to Japan.

The rule limiting the service of troops in the Philippines to two years does not become immediately operative. By a decision of the U.S. War Department, all regiments on Philippine duty must complete a three years' term of service before the two years' rule takes effect.

The *N.-C. Daily News* wrote last week:—It is the fixed belief of a large body of shareholders in China of the Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd., that the company in question ought to be and might be a great deal more successful than it is. It is with this conviction that they urge that the direction of the company should be in China, not in London. There is no dissatisfaction, we apprehend, with the new General Manager, whose ability and fitness for the post are fully recognised; but the shareholders are justified in feeling that this is emphatically where the Board of Directors should be, and to promote this a meeting is to be held at the Town Hall on Tuesday next at 5 p.m.

Once again the story of China granting to Italy a concession in Sanmun Bay has been revived, (this time by a Roman journal, the *Fafula*).

Lieut.-Gen. Baron Oku, Commander-in-Chief of the Eastern Military Section, is to represent Japan at the Delhi Durbar and military manoeuvres.

The Tientsin railway station which stands in the Concession is not convenient for the Chinese and therefore the Chinese authorities intend to build a new station in the rear of the Viceroy's yamen.

An official telegram received in Shanghai from Wuchow, states that Governor Wang Chih-ch'un, of Kwangsi, left that port with all his forces for Nanningfu on the 6th instant, to conduct operations against the insurgents and disbanded soldiery reported to be there in force.

Count Matsukata is reported to be contemplating the establishment of a large savings bank in Tokyo with a view to encouraging the habit of thrift among the Japanese generally. The *Asahi* says that the Count's recent visit to America and Europe has apparently convinced him of the necessity of starting the bank.

M. Beau, the new Governor-General of French Indo-China, was accompanied on his voyage to Saigon on the *Annam* by M. Alberic Neton, formerly private secretary to M. Delcassé, who will be *chef de cabinet*, and M. Rodier, formerly Governor of French India. The latter succeeds M. Bouloche, Resident of Cambodia, who becomes Secretary-General for Civil Affairs in succession to M. Broni, retired.

Amongst the passengers by the *Annam*, we notice the arrival of M. J. Ajalbert, a well-known French writer who is going to Tonkin on a special mission and as a representative of the Paris newspaper *Le Journal*. After a few days spent in Kwangchauwan, he will proceed direct to the Hanoi Exhibition. M. J. Ajalbert is well posted to write on those countries, as he has already been here once and travelled a great deal in Indo-China, Northern China, and Japan. Now he will devote most of his time to Yunnan and Laos. We congratulate our French neighbours on having such able men travelling in those regions of wide interest.

The U.S. Navy Department has found means of aiding the sufferers by the Guam earthquake by appropriating \$15,000 for repairs and labourers' wages. The department was legally advised that Guam could be classed as a naval station, and the money could be apportioned and expended on repairs, and for the hire of labourers. That sum has, therefore, been set aside, and will be placed to the credit of the naval officers on the station. The sufferers will be permitted to purchase supplies from the naval stores at Cavite. Both President Roosevelt and Secretary Moody were anxious to assist those who were rendered homeless by the earthquake, and their action in setting aside this money for the purpose has met with general approval in the States.

A meeting of French citizens and *protégés* was held at Bangkok on the 9th inst. at the residence of M. A. Jourdan. There was a large attendance, about 200 being present. The majority were Chinese; not all the European French residents attended. It seems that the signing of the Treaty in Paris came as a surprise to French residents at Bangkok, and it is understood that the meeting was called to express indignation at the terms agreed to. A telegram was despatched to Paris. It is said that in this telegram the French *protégés* asked the Government to protect them. It is expected in Bangkok that a strong effort will be made to defeat the French Government over the question of the ratification of the treaty. A second meeting of French citizens assembled at the same place on the 12th inst. There seemed to be two views taken of the situation created by the signing of the new Treaty. On the one hand it was argued that a definite settlement fair to both Powers is desirable, but that this Treaty is not such a settlement, as the restriction with regard to the officers and troops in the 25 kilometre zone, for example, may easily give rise to endless disputes. The view, however, which received the support of almost all who were present, is that the settlement come to in the Treaty is unfair to French interests in Siam. A committee was appointed to draw up a formal protest.

According to a return made by the Japanese Home Department, the number of cases of cholera reported throughout Japan up to the 4th inst. since the outbreak of the disease is 11,820, of which 6,846 ended fatally. The disease is still prevalent in Osaka-fu and Ok-yama, Hiroshima, Kagawa, and Pukuoka prefectures.

A *Mercury* correspondent writes, under date Newchwang, 9th October:—The Russians have now handed back to China the Newchwang-Shanhaikwan sectional railway and have removed their entire railway staff to this side. They are busily engaged in making up their accounts, and for this purpose have engaged the large three-storied building on Madeira Road. The Chinese flag is flying at all stations along the line and the trains are entirely manned and worked by the Chinese. For the last week window frames, doors, railway-sleepers, wharf girders, complete lengths of trolley-rails and trolley-cars, etc., have found their way here and elsewhere. A trolley-line may be seen working from the Bund to the vicinity of the future Russian Consulate. Trains were not run for several days on the line just handed back, on account of telegraphic and other interruptions. The Governor-General of Shenking Province has been here in connection with the restoration.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1	1899-00
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	17,943,343	19,654,141
Hioho	10,168,795	10,593,706
	28,112,138	30,247,847

SILK.

CANTON, 9th September:—Re-reels.—A purchase of 10 Bales each Nos. 1 and 2, ordinary classification, was made at \$770/755. Subsequently, 25 Bales No. 1 have been taken at \$780. Filatures.—These continue to find buyers at steadily increasing rates but, as above, purchases have been confined to two or three firms. Highest prices paid to date are: \$1,035 and \$1,042½ for Sam Yu Yee 9/11, \$1,010 for Kwong Shun Cheong 11/13, \$1,000 for Yuen Fung Seng 10/12, Wing Cheong Sing 11/13, King Seng 11/13, \$990 for Chung Sai Wo, Yue Loong Hing 10/12, \$975 for Mei Lun Hing, Hop Wo Hing 10/12, and Sam Yu Yee 11/13, \$850 for Wai King Wo, Yee Woo Cheong 13/22. \$1,020 are offered for Miu King Lon 11/13, held for \$1,030. Best 3c. Ordre 11/13, 13/15 have been placed at \$95/8½, average, while just at the close a sale is made at \$860 (Frs. 34.25). 14/18 has been done at \$810/815, and \$920 are reported as offered for 10/12, held for \$940/950. Short-reels.—Have followed the lead of European reels and have found buyers up to \$980 for Extra 14/16, Kwong Shun Cheong, Kwong Shun Ching. Waste.—Native speculation has again become very active in the interior, causing an almost daily advance on all classes. Buyers offer on about the basis of \$135 for Steam Ext. Sel. opened, against \$148 cost price in the country.

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 24th October.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG 24th October.—The tone of the market has improved and the prices are consequently advancing.

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.10 to \$8.15 pcl.
do. " 2, White.....	6.85 to 6.90 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	6.00 to 6.05 "
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.85 to 5.90 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.05 to 8.10 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	6.75 to 6.80 "
do. " 1, Brown ...	5.80 to 5.85 "
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.70 to 5.75 "
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.10 to 12.15 "
Shekloong "	9.55 to 9.60 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 24th October.—The position of the market is nearly the same as when last reported.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$3.80 to 3.85
" Round, Good quality	4.35 to 4.40
" Long	4.55 to 4.60
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	4.10 to 4.15
" Garden, " No. 1	4.30 to 4.35
" White	5.45 to 5.50
" Fine Cargo	5.65 to 5.70

(COTTON.

Hongkong 24th October.—Small business only; market quiet. Stock, about 1,000 bales.
 Bombay..... 21.00 to 22.50 picul,
 Bengal (New), Rangoon, } 22.00 to 24.50 "
 and Dacca, }
 Shanghai and Japanese, .. 25.00 to 27.00 "
 Tungchow and Ningpo, ... 25.00 to 27.00 "
 Sales:—300 bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 14th October:—So far as local trade is concerned, the market is more or less at a standstill and business continues to drag. The prolonged drought in the interior has again considerably restricted the demand, whilst the disturbed state of the country and the failure of the autumn rice crop preclude the possibility of an early improvement. Under the circumstances we would have had again to repeat a gloomy market, with a considerable depreciation in prices, but as hinted in last circular, Shanghai has once more come to our assistance and over 7,000 bales of almost all grades and counts are reported to have been purchased from native dealers at an advance of \$1 to \$2 for the North in addition to close upon 18,000 bales shipped on Hongkong account. We estimate unsold stock at about 22,000 bales, which under normal conditions would not have failed to excite the market, more especially as the quantity of sold but uncleared goods in native hands has been reduced to about 14,000 bales. We again close quiet but steady.

Local Spinnings:—With the exception of a single sale of 50 Bales No. 12s at \$98, a blank fortnight has been experienced.

Japanese Yarn:—Tonquin demand is still in abeyance, only some 300 bales Settsu No. 20s (Red Peacock) changing hands at \$123 to \$124.

Raw Cotton:—Demand from the country still holds off, and the decline in prices of China cotton and proximity to the new Indian crop, have greatly weakened holders, who have succeeded in placing some small lots of Superfine Bengal at a small concession to native dealers. The local mill has also been in good evidence, and is responsible for more than three fourths of the total business, which aggregates close upon 1,500 bales at from \$22 to \$23. Stock is exhausted and comprises about 500 bales inferior descriptions. China staple has declined and sales of 150 bales Ningpo at from \$26 to \$25 are reported; stock about 500 bales small. Quotations are Bengal \$20 to \$23; China \$23 to \$26.

Exchange on India has fluctuated slightly and closes to-day at Rs. 125½ for T. T. and Rs. 125½ for Post. Shanghai 72½ and on Yokohama at 23½ per cent. premium.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 11th instant, viz:—

Indian:—Owing to internal trouble being much quieter in Szechuen and to a good demand from the River Ports, a much bigger business has been done and sales of 20,897 bales are reported, comprising 6,382 bales No. 10s., 3,661 bales No. 12s., 1,400 bales No. 16s., and 9,455 bales No. 20s., prices showing an improvement of one Tael all round and market closing very firm. Estimated unsold stock about 25,000 bales.

Japanese:—Reported sales aggregate about 1,000 bales, say No. 16s. at Tls. 85 to 90, and No. 20s. at Tls. 90 to 93½, prices showing a decline of half a Tael and market closing weak.

Local:—Have been in very good enquiry and sales of 30,000 bales have been effected at Tls. 76½ to 77 for No. 10s., Tls. 78½ to 79½ for No. 12s., Tls. 78½ to 82½ for No. 14s., and Tls. 81 to 82½ for No. 16s., prices showing an appreciation of half to 1 Tael and market closing steady.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

Hongkong, 24th October.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$83.00 to \$124.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

	per piece.
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.20 to 2.30
7 lbs.	2.30 to 2.50
8.4 lbs.	3.10 to 3.77½
9 to 10 lbs.	3.85 to 5.01
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.60 to 2.91
58 to 60 "	3.25 to 3.45
64 to 66 "	3.55 to 5.35
Fine.....	5.40 to 7.85
Book-folds	4.55 to 7.00
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.75 to 1.40

T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.90 to 2.15
7lbs. (32 ") ..	2.20 to 2.50
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	2.25 to 2.40
7lbs. (32 ") ..	3.95 to 3.50
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) ..	3.20 to 3.75
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ " to 14 lbs.	4.20 to 6.90

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.	1.60 to 4.50
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BROCADES—Dyed

	per yard
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Chintzes—Assorted	0.08 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.23 to 0.60
Velveteens—18 in.	0.23 to 0.28

HANDKERCHIEFS—Imitation Silk

	per dozen
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WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.65 to 2.25
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Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 3.00
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Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.

Assorted	7.00 to 9.10
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Canlets—Assorted	15.50 to 34.00
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Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches (Assorted)	12.50 to 17.00
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Orleans—Plain	10.00 to —
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Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.

Fine quality,	0.60 to 0.80
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	per pair
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	1.40 to 2.00
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METALS—

	per picul
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Iron—Nail Rod	4.60 to —
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Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.	4.60 to —
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Swedish Bar	4.65 to —
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Small Round Rod	5.00 to —
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Hoop ½ to 1½ in.,	6.50 to —
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Wire, 16 25,	9.20 to —
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Old Wire Rope	3.20 to —
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Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	7.95 to —
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Australian	7.95 to —
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Yellow Metal—Muntz 14 20 oz.	39.50 to —
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Vivian's 14 20 oz.	39.00 to —
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Elliot's 14 20 oz.	39.00 to —
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Composition Nails	61.00 to —
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Japan Copper, Slabs,	39.00 to —
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Tin	8.00 to —
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	box. per
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Tin-Plates	8.30 to —
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	per cwt. case
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Steel ½ to 1	6.50 to —
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SUNDRIES—

	per picul
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Quicksilver	18.00 to —
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	per box.
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Window Glass	5.75 to —
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	per 10-gal. case
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Kerosene Oil	2.61 to —
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SHANGHAI, 15th October:—From Messrs. Alex.

Bielfeld and Co.'s report of 10th October.—In

Metals there has been a most decided improvement

during the week, the Chinese apparently seeing

that prices are so well maintained at home that

they cannot hope for lower rates. As a conse-

quence, several contracts for old Materials have

been closed. For new Iron, however, there has

been less demand.

SHANGHAI, 15th October (from Messrs. Noel,

Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report of 9th

October.)—PIECE GOODS.—Although there have

only been three working days since the issue of

our last circular on 4th instant it has become ap-

parent that there is more movement among Chinese.

As yet it has not affected importers as far as new

purchases are concerned, but the movement has

made itself distinctly felt as far as clearances are

concerned. The market that has shown most ac-

tivity in this direction is Szechuen which, apart

from taking deliveries of previous purchases, have

bought freely of Indian Yarn, Grey Goods and

White Irishes, while it is rumoured that some or-

ders, which will be welcomed, have been received

for Fast Black Italians. Tientsin continues to

take goods somewhat freely and it daily becomes

more evident that this market is short of supplies

and the principal stumbling block that prevents

merchants from operating freely is the present

abnormal low rate of local exchange. We hear

that shipments of suitable goods have been trans-

ferred hence for realisation. In addition to the

above enquiry there appears to have been a little

done for Chefoo, but it is difficult to know exactly

what has been done as dealers have been forward-

ing so much from their own holdings and in con-

sequence little has been taken from first hands.

The market for Indian Yarn has again been active

and sales of 9,326 bales are reported the principal

buyers being Szechuen and the River Port. From

what we have heard it would appear that the

former market does not take the same quantity of

manufactured goods as it used to, and pays more

attention to Indian spinnings. This, from recent purchases, may appear to be quite correct, but we must not forget that particular market has been much upset for a considerable time. With the exception of a little demand for Grey Goods private business has been very small and the sales reported are scarcely worth noticing but the auction sales show distinct firmness which tends to show that dealers have still some confidence in the future. There is an easier feeling for Cotton in Liverpool as the latest quotation is 4½, but this does not appear to have made any difference in Manchester as the latest advices report the market as strong as ever. The above position is showing itself here as Importers are firmly refusing to sell at anything like the prices offered, and in the advances paid by dealers at the auctions. New York is also very firm and it is said that the c.f.i. price of P. M. C. Drills has advanced three pence per piece since our last circular. We hear that the purchase made in New York for this market since 1st August last amount to 50,000 bales and that of this quantity the indents made on account of Chinese do not aggregate 1,000 bales.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 24th October.—A fair general enquiry continues to be met with, and sales of most of our leading stocks have been effected at gradually hardening rates.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been booked at \$632½ and \$630, and close with sellers at the latter rate. London has declined to £65. Nationals are neglected at \$27½.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions are reported to have been placed at the advanced rate of \$46½; and China Traders at \$60½. North Chinas continue on offer at Tls. 187½. Yangtszes have been booked at \$151. Cantons can be procured at \$167½ ex the dividend of \$14 per share for 1901 paid to-day.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have sold and can still be procured to a slight extent at \$350. Chinas have found buyers at \$86 and close steady.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao are wanted at \$36½ after sales at the rate. Indo-Chinas have further improved to \$100 with buyers, sellers asking \$102 and equivalent rates on time. China and Manilas have been booked at \$26, but there are no buyers now over \$25. Douglases after sales at \$42½ and \$42 are now procurable at \$11½. Star Ferries are wanted at the improved rates of \$22 (old) and \$12 (new). Shell Transports continue on offer at £1. 17s. 6d.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been dealt in to a fair extent at \$99 and \$100, and close with a few more shares obtainable at the higher rate. Luzons have jumped to \$15 buyers.

MINING.—Punjoms have declined to \$2½ with probable sellers. Jelebus are offering at \$7½, and Raubs at \$8. Charbonnages can be procured at \$800.

DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continued to advance during the earlier part of the week until \$222½ for a small parcel was paid; the rate then fell off somewhat to \$220 at which a fair business is reported to have been done, the market closing steady at this figure. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have continued in steady request, and can now be placed at \$89. New Amoy Docks are unaltered at \$37 buyers.

LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been in steady request with fair transactions effected at \$180; there is now a small unsatisfied demand at \$182. Kowloon Lands continue on offer at \$30. West Points are in some request at \$47½, and Humphreys Estates at \$12½. Hongkong Hotels have been booked at \$131½ and are now wanted at \$132. Orientes continue out of favour at \$40 sellers.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong Cottons have sold at \$17 and further shares are procurable. Ewos have declined to Tls. 38 sellers. Internationals are slightly better at Tls. 31 with buyers.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have sold and are in further request at \$20½. China Borneos can be procured at \$30. A. S. Watsons have improved to \$15 with sales and further buyers. Electrics (old) are still on offer at \$13; the new shares are in strong request at \$6.35. Ropes are lower with sellers at \$125. Steam Water-Boats are easier with sellers at \$94. Dairy Farms can be procured at \$12. China Providents have sellers at \$10; and Wm. Powells at \$8½.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	(\$630, sellers { L'don, £65.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$27, sellers
B. Shares	£8	\$27.
Foun. Shares...	£1	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	£1	\$1, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$35.
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$30, sellers
China Light & Power) Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$15, sellers
China Prov. L. & M....	\$10	\$10, sales & sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$100, sellers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited...	\$500	\$500, nominal.
Philippine Tobacco) Invest. Co., Ltd.)	\$50	\$4, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 38, sellers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 31, buyers
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 37½.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 150.
Hongkong	\$100	\$17, sales
Dairy Farm	\$8	\$12, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$47½.
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$20½, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric) {	\$10	\$13, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$5	\$6.35, buyers
Hk. Steam Water) boat Co., Ltd.	\$100	\$345.
{	\$5	\$9½, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$132, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$240.
H. & K. Wharf & G....	\$50	\$8½, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$12½, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$220, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$167½, ex div, sells
China Fire	\$20	\$86, sales & sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$60½, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$350, sellers
North China	£25	Tls. 350, sellers
Straits	\$20	\$1, buyers
Union	\$50	\$460, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$131, sales
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$182, sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$12½, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$47½, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$15, buyers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$20, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$660, sellers
Jebeu	\$5	\$1½, sellers
Punjom	\$10	\$2½, sellers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1.
Raubs	18	\$8, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$37, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$40, sellers
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$8½, sales
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$25, buyers
{	\$5	{ nominal
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$41½, sellers
H., Canton and M....	\$15	\$36½, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$100, buyers
Shell Transport and) Trading Co.	£1	£1. 17s. 6d. sellers
{	\$10	{ \$22, sales & buy.
Star Ferry	\$5	{ \$12, sales & buy.
{	\$5	{ nominal.
Tebrau Planting Co....	\$4	\$8½.
United Abestos.....	\$10	\$155.
Do	\$5	\$19½, sellers
Universal Trading) Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$7, buyers
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$15, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S....	\$10	\$15, buyers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Shanghai, 15th October (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). Business has been more active this week, and Bank, Indo-China and Langkat shares show an improvement. BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. Shares changed hands locally at \$617½, and better rates are now obtainable. MARINE INSURANCE.—Yangtzes were placed locally at \$130. FIRE INSURANCE.—Chinas have been sold locally at \$84½, a decline of \$1½, on account of a loss in Amoy. SHIPPING.—Indo-China S. N. Co. Cash shares were sold at Tls. 63 to 67½, closing with sellers at the latter rate. On time business was done, for October at Tls. 64½, December at

64½, January at 65½ and 68½, and for February and March at 70. SUGAR.—Peraks at offering at Tls. 77. MINING.—Chinese Engineering and Mining shares were sold Bearer scrip at Tls. 9.10 cash and 9.00 for October, and London shares at 8.90 and 9.00. An interim dividend of 7½ per cent., or 16 per share, has been declared, and the First Coupon on Bearer shares can be cashed here at the current rate of exchange for demand drafts on London. A meeting of shareholders is called for the 23rd current, to consider the question of recommending the transfer of the Board of Directors to China. DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co. Shares have changed hands at rather irregular rates—Tls. 195 rising to 197½ and declining to 192½ cash, 195, 197½ and 195 for October, 200, 197½ for December, 197½, 202½, and 197½ for January and 200 for February. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares were placed at Tls. 310 cash, 311 for October and 325 for March. LANDS.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were placed at Tls. 120, 121 and 122½ cum new issue. INDUSTRIAL.—Ewo Cotton Mill shares were sold, and are offering, at Tls. 38. Internationals are wanted at Tls. 30. China Flour Mill shares have been in strong demand, and were placed at Tls. 60 to 72½ cash, 60½ for November, 69 71 for December and 75 for February. Shanghai Pulp and Paper shares were sold at Tls. 101 and 101½. Shanghai Ice shares are offering freely at Tls. 24. TUGS AND CARGO BOATS.—Shanghai Cargo Boat shares were placed at Tls. 145 and 150 cash and 147½ for December. Shanghai Tug Boat shares are wanted. MISCELLANEOUS.—Shanghai Waterworks shares are wanted. Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares changed hands at Tls. 275, 270, 290, and 285 cash, 265/285 for October, 275 282½ for November, and 280/260 for December. Business was done in Shanghai Mutual Telephone shares at Tls. 62, Weeks and Co. shares at \$62½, Astor House Hotel shares at \$28½, and Hotel des Colonies shares at Tls. 16/10½. LOANS.—Debentures were placed: Shanghai Municipal 5 per cent. at Tls. 93½, Shanghai Land 5½ per cent. at Tls. 97, and 6 per cent. at 103, Shanghai Waterworks 6 per cent. at Tls. 103, Shanghai Gas 6 per cent. at Tls. 103, Shanghai Club at Par and Country Club also Par.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 24th October.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer 1/8
Bank Bills, on demand 1/8 1/4
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 1/8 1/4
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1/8 3/4
Credits, at 4 months' sight 1/8 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1/8 1/2

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand 2/10
Credits, 4 months' sight 2/14

ON GERMANY.—On demand

ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand 40½
Credits, 60 days' sight 41½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer 125½
Bank, on demand 125½

ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer

Bank, on demand 125½

ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight

Private, 30 days' sight 73½

ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand 2 1/2 p.c. pm.

ON MANILA.—On demand 1 p.c. pm.

ON SINGAPORE.—On demand par

ON BATAVIA.—On demand 1 1/2 p.c. pm.

ON HAIPHONG.—On demand 1 1/2 p.c. pm.

ON SAIGON.—On demand 1 p.c. pm.

ON BANGKOK.—On demand 60½

SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael

BAR SILVER per oz.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 24th October.—A large volume of business has been transacted during the past fortnight. From Saigon to Hongkong, 19½ cents per picul; to 1 port Philippines 33 cents per picul last; to 1 port N. C. Java, 27½ cents per picul. From Jav to Hongkong, 26 cents for wet and 20 cents for dry sugar. From Bangkok to Hongkong, 32 and 27½ cents per picul offering. From Newchwang to Canton, 40 cents per picul last. Coal freights continue firm. From Moji to Hongkong, \$2.30 per ton offering; to Singapore \$2.30; to Manila, \$3.50 per ton. The following are the settlements:—

Halvard—Norwegian steamer, 1,040 tons, Mororan or Otaru to Hongkong, \$2.80 per ton.

Shakuno Maru—Japanese steamer, 2,064 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$3.25 per ton.

Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 35 cents per picul.

Quarta—German steamer, 1,146 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 36 cents per picul (25,000 piculs).

Selun—Norwegian steamer, 865 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 36 cents per picul (25,000 piculs).

Quarta—German steamer, 1,146 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 35 cents per picul (26,000 piculs).

Carl Diederichsen—German steamer, 712 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 38 cents per picul.

Pronto—German steamer, 719 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 40 cents per picul.

Salamanca—British steamer, 883 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 30 and 25 cents per picul.

Karin—Swedish steamer, 698 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 30 and 25 cents per picul.

Saga—Norwegian steamer, 699 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 30 and 25 cents per picul.

Taurus—Norwegian steamer, 1,367 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 32 and 27 cents per picul.

Brudhilda—German steamer, 872 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 30 cents per picul.

Prosper—German steamer, 788 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 32 cents per picul.

Independent—German steamer, 1,040 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 32 cents per picul.

Tritos—German steamer, 1,033 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 33 cents per picul.

Sleipner—Norwegian steamer, 860 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 33 cents per picul.

Lisa—Swedish steamer, 788 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 33 cents per picul.

Bjorn—Norwegian steamer, 724 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 35 cents per picul.

Namyang—German steamer, 1,060 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 36 cents per picul.

Ulabrand—Norwegian steamer, 1,269 tons, Saigon to Manila, 31 cents per picul.

Esmeralda—British steamer, 966 tons, Saigon to Cebu, 36 cents per picul.

Brand—Norwegian steamer, 1,519 tons, Wuhu to Canton, 25 candereens per picul.

Hermann Menzell—German steamer, 1,104 tons, Wuhu to Canton, 32 candereens per picul.

Triumph—German steamer, 769 tons, Wuhu to Canton, 36 cents per picul net.

Pronto—German steamer, 719 tons, Wuhu to Canton, 38 cents per picul net.

Gaea—Norwegian steamer, 624 tons, Wuhu to Canton, 40 cents per picul net.

Skramstad—Norwegian steamer, 759 tons, Wuhu to Canton, 40 cents per picul net.

Pronto—Norwegian steamer, 837 tons, Wuhu to Canton, 40 cents per picul net.

An East Asiatic Trading Co.'s steamer, Hongay to Saigon, \$3.50 per ton.

Seitoku Maru—Japanese steamer, 884 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, 15 cents per picul.

Bjorn—Norwegian steamer, 724 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 22 cents per picul.

Tailee—German steamer, 939 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19½ cents per picul.

Arnold Luyken—German steamer, 1,095 tons, two ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 26 cents per picul.

Tritos—German steamer, 1,033 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$8,000 per month.

Marie Jensen—German steamer, 1,771 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$8,400 per month.

Gaea—Norwegian steamer, 624 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$5,000 per month.

Petrarch—German steamer, 1,252 tons, monthly, 4 months, \$5,800 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—Inaba Maru (str.).

FOR LONDON.—Ballaarat (str.), Achilles (str.), Menelaus (str.), Java (str.), Agamemnon (str.), Tantalus (str.), Inaba Maru (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL.—Deucalion (str.), Pingsuey (str.), Alcinous (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—Ernest Simons (str.), Inaba Maru (str.), Prinz Valdemar (str.), Java (tr.).

FOR BREMEN.—Hamburg (str.).

FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Sazonia (str.), Serbia (str.), Marburg (str.), Suevia (str.), Alesia (str.).

FOR TRIESTE.—Marquis Bacquehem (str.).

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Olympia (str.), Yangtze (str.), Kaga Maru (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of India (str.), Tartar (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—Lothian (str.), Charles Tiberghien (str.).

FOR BALTIMORE.—Charles Tiberghien (str.).

FOR PORTLAND (OR.).—Indravelli (str.).

FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Yawala Maru (str.).

FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO AND BOMBAY.—Idsumi Maru (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

October—

ARRIVALS.

19, Airlie, British str., from Kobe.
 19, Fausang, British str., from Shanghai.
 19, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 20, Chida, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
 20, Chiyuen, Amr. str., from Canton.
 20, Feiching, British str., from Canton.
 20, Nanyang, German str., from Manila.
 20, Rajaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
 20, Skarpsno, Norwegian str., from Samarang.
 20, Taiyuan, British str., from Kobe.
 20, Talbot, British cruiser, from Mirs Bay.
 20, Ulabrand, Norwegian str., from Moji.
 21, Australian, British str., from Australia.
 21, Espiegle, British gunboat, from practice.
 21, Hanyang, British str., from Wuhu.
 21, Hoihao, French str., from Kwangchauwan.
 21, J. Diederichsen, German str., from Pakhoi.
 21, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., from Australia.
 21, Mongkut, German str., from Bangkok.
 21, Progress, German str., from Tournon.
 21, Sabine Rickmers, British str., from Canton.
 21, Sleipner, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
 21, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 21, Tientsin, British str., from London.
 22, Choysang, British str., from Wuhu.
 22, Esang, British str., from Canton.
 22, Glenloch, British str., from London.
 22, James Bland, British str., from Shanghai.
 22, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 22, Meifoo, Chinese str., from Canton.
 22, Ness, British str., from Moji.
 22, Patroclus, British str., from Liverpool.
 22, Salamanga, British str., from Saigon.
 22, Sen is, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 22, The, German str., from Tsingtau.
 22, Tailee, German str., from Swatow.
 23, Amigo, German str., from Cebu.
 23, Apennine, German str., from Hoihow.
 23, Clavering, British str., from Moji.
 23, Daijin Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
 23, Lienshing, British str., from Canton.
 23, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
 23, Marburg, German str., from Hamburg.
 23, Mausarg, British str., from Sandakan.
 23, Singora, German str., from Bangkok.
 23, Taisheon, German str., from Cebu.
 23, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., from K'not zu.
 23, Zvir, Austrian str., from Moji.
 24, Ballarat, British str., from Shanghai.
 24, Chelydra, British str., from Cheribon.
 24, Kanagawa Maru, Jap. str., from London.
 24, Lightning, British str., from Calcutta.
 24, Lena, Norwegian str., from Samarang.
 24, Massilia, British str., from Bombay.
 24, Tritos, German str., from Saigon.

October—

DEPARTURES.

19, M. Bacquehem, Aust. str., for Yokohama.
 19, Yedo Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 20, Anamba, Danish str., for Bangkok.
 20, Annam, French str., for Shanghai.
 20, Anping, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 20, Espiegle, British gunboat, for practice.
 20, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 20, Rabi, British str., for Manila.
 20, Salazie, French str., for Europe.
 20, Tosa Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
 20, Tyr, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 20, Woosung, British str., for Canton.
 21, Arab, Norwegian str., for Hakodate.
 21, Feiching, British str., for Shanghai.
 21, Marie Jølsen, German str., for Amoy.
 21, Michael Jølsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 21, Quarta, German str., for Chefoo.
 21, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
 21, Sabine Rickmers, Brit. str., for Singapore.
 21, Sullberg, German str., for Newchwang.
 22, Chiyuen, American str., for Shanghai.
 22, Devawongs, German str., for Bangkok.
 22, Elita Nossack, Ger. str., for Chinkiang.
 22, Empress of China, Brit. str., for Vancouver.
 22, Esang, British str., for Shanghai.
 22, Fausang, British str., for Canton.
 22, Hanyang, British str., for Canton.
 22, Nanyang, German str., for Saigon.
 22, Silvia, German str., for Hamburg.
 23, Airlie, British str., for Sydney.
 23, Arratoon Apcar, British str., for Calcutta.
 23, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Tsingtau.
 23, Choysang, British str., for Canton.
 23, Chowfa, German str., for Bangkok.
 23, Hopsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Germania, German str., for Samarang.
 23, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.

23, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 23, Kaifong, British str., for Cebu.
 23, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 23, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 23, Patroclus, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Pleiades, British str., for Tacoma.
 23, Segovia, German str., for Amoy.
 23, Taiyuan, British str., for Melbourne.
 23, Thales, British str., for Coast Ports.
 23, Tientsin, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Waterwitch, British s.-v., for Mirs Bay.
 23, Wingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 24, Australian, British str., for Australia.
 24, Juno, American str., for Saigon.
 24, Kelat, British ship, for New York.
 24, K. Gorischakow, Russian str., for Odessa.
 24, Meifoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 24, Rajaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
 24, Taurus, Norw. str., for Bangkok.
 24, Ulabrand, Norw. str., for Saigon.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Kaifong*, from Iloilo, Mrs. F. Allen, Mrs. Mercedes Valles, Messrs. Leo M. Cutts, S. G. Seligman, T. Hurl, V. Salud, and J. Perez.
 Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Mrs. Maxim, Messrs. A. Ruby, A. Ripley, W. Lest, H. Lawrence, J. S. Cadavall, M. S. Abreu, F. E. de Caraballo and L. Rosario.

Per *Salazie*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. Mrs. and Miss de Cagigas, Mr. de Carrallio and Rev. Papinot; from Kobe, Mrs. Harvey, Messrs. Morgan Phillips, Bowden and Murakoshi; from Shanghai, Mrs. and Miss Marix, Mrs. Donnenberg, Miss Taylor, Dr. Herrmann, Capt. Campbell, Messrs. Maxon, Michael, Lemiere, Platanisidy, Wilh. Holtken, Jannot, Zucharia, Biniadoros, Caravella, Pereira and Collins Epperly; for Saigon, from Yokohama, Mr. Othmo-Speck; from Kobe, Mr. Kowai; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Huyvenor and Mr. Larssonier; for Singapore, from Nagasaki, Mr. Cornoroff; from Shanghai, Capt. Stringer and Mr. Buxton; for Calcutta, from Yokohama, Mr. Ali Hoosein; for Marseilles, from Kobe, Mr. Nagashi; from Shanghai, Messrs. Taniel, Germain, Dubois, Elomb, Provent, Hingue, Bense-tride, Gautier, Tanguy, Broudin, Longchamp, Simon, Guennec, Lequimat, Le Goff, Femigirand, Semaille, Supot, Duferrier, Daguerre and Herb.

Per *Annam* for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Comte Vitali, Lieut. Wright, Capt. Green, Rev. Gabardi, Messrs. de Kapp, Auboyneau, Miguel Yrisary, Sudore, A. S. itz, Schlatter, Gulert, Vec. Sanafort and Dubuffe, Mr. Bimey and family; from Colombo, Mrs. Desjardus and two children; from Singapore, Messrs. v. Affelen, A. Leurie and Bonnet; from Saigon, Messrs. Dauvy, Coton Schwoter, Choungkiet and Fuchs; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mrs. Gourlaouen, Mrs. and Miss Vian, Messrs. Ajalbert, Oliver, Jacob, Chausal and Bellion; from Colombo, Mr. Stanley; from Singapore, Messrs. Weddler, Kose, Aadree and Baverro; from Saigon, Miss Martin and Mr. Ferrand; for Nagasaki, from Marseilles, Mr. Chaix; for Kobe, Mr. Van Oidt de Lamverecht; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Tillot, Mr. and Mrs. Campignon, Mr. and Mrs. Manselin, Messrs. Harmand, Vaudier, Tabatie, Combarieu, Kahn, Jabrin and Eymard; from Colombo, Lieut. and Mrs. Hodgson, Messrs. Borel and Leishmann; from Singapore, Messrs. Edelberg, Garraun and Payan.

Per *Nanyang*, from Manila, Dr. and Mrs. N. Ferrier and Capt. and Mrs. Harrington.

Per *Fausang*, from Shanghai, Capt. Lambie.

Per *Airlie*, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Messrs. A. Brunet and E. La Rue; for Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. Bassett Hull and Mr. C. B. Minnett.

Per *China*, from San Francisco, A.C., General and Mrs. G. E. Howard, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Dutton, Mr. and Mrs. Brower, Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Williams, Mrs. G. M. Ellivot, Mrs. H. Andrews and infant, Mrs. G. Andrews and infant, Miss Vic Andrews, Mrs. Redfern and infant, Master Redfern, Hon. J. Barrett, Dr. J. Repetti, Messrs. J. F. Duncan, Paul Rulf, H. O. Pixley, Ray Spear, T. Hardea, C. G. Edwards, G. L. Tomlin, E. A. Katsch, W. J. Fisher, Ellinger, F. J. Mitchell, C. E. Le Man, on and Cummings.

Per *Kasuga Maru*, from Australia, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Fulford and child, Mr. and Mrs. C. Fabries, Mrs. Cameron, Mrs. Frischling and two children, Mrs. Nieves Riouda

Cason and three daughters, Sisters A. Carranza and Francisco, Revs. C. G. Velles, H. F. Millar and S. Calderon, Messrs. R. Godman, Pedro A. Roxas, F. I. Young and J. Hedingham; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Le Conteur, Mr. and Mrs. Fukuchi, Mrs. T. Sato and child, Messrs. J. Mitchell, E. J. Wangenheim, G. H. Davis, A. Gitchrist, C. Smith and Y. Yasuda.

Per *Australian*, from Sydney, Capt. and Mrs. C. S. Paulet, Mrs. E. Playfair and child, Miss Playfair, Mrs. Butchart and child, Mrs. Davies and two children, Mrs. D. Quirk, Misses A. Smith and Trudinger, Capt. Anderson, Messrs. A. Seymour and Fundon; from Timor, Capt. and Mrs. da Silva, Misses da Silva (2), and Mr. J. Caeterio; from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Yanes, Mrs. Mackay and infant, Misses Hogg and Sera Smooker, Rev. Albert Bealer and Mr. A. J. McCall.

Per *Mausang*, from Sandakan, Mr. J. Marcus.

DEPARTED.

Per *Sachsen*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Henry V. Voges, Miss Grethe, Captain Calhoun, Messrs. R. Becker, E. Cole, P. J. Spurr, Hyderbhoy, F. Young, H. M. Cumine, O. A. Madar, S. Eguichi and MacWillie; for Nagasaki, Miss Matudaki, Messrs. J. Turpin, K. Yusutani and H. Hirose; for Kobe, Messrs. A. Yoshuda and J. Katsumata; for Yokohama, Hon. C. S. Howard.

Per *Hongkong Maru*, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lanne, Misses M. Boyd, K. Schmidt and Shirakawa, Messrs. J. J. Pacine, S. Alliston and S. Shirakawa; for Nagasaki, Messrs. Kei Knoshi and S. Takada; for Kobe, Dr. Carpenter; for Yokohama, Mrs. L. D. Adams and Mr. E. Snow, U.S.N.; for San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Beveridge, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Beveridge and two children, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. McGregor, Miss E. W. Wakeman, Messrs. Jno. M. Lathrop, Geo. W. White, U.S.N., W. S. Reamer and W. S. Edwards.

Per *Annam*, for Shanghai, Messrs. Fucke and B. A. Tata.

Per *Salazie*, for Singapore, Messrs. H. Anasagasti, R. Gottlober, J. Nigro, H. Seibt and H. Volkerr; for Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. E. Thompson; for Marseilles, Mr. Rat.

Per *Rubi*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. P. G. Graham, Miss Graham, Mr. and Mrs. D. Oliver, Mrs. Forbes, Miss Gusta, Dr. Herrmann, Messrs. J. Fernandez, M. Siva, Mirza, Mahia, Husebux, Hukamtam, Alibux, L. Felix and E. Ludewig.

Per *Tosa Maru*, for Seattle, &c., Capt. H. H. Cunningham, Messrs. J. M. Miller, H. Murata and T. Saito.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, for Manila, Mrs. J. A. Remedios, Miss R. Remedios, Mrs. T. Mamezuka, Mrs. S. Harima, Mrs. Rito Daba, Mrs. S. Kosaka, Mrs. R. Hashimoto, Mrs. M. Doi, Mr. and Mrs. Arie, Miss Mitsuno Arie, Misses Yvanovich, T. Hashimoto, A. Deguchi, Yamponsk, T. Yamagawa, S. Ikeda, T. Otsuka and I. Nachida, Dr. Hazzuri, Messrs. Yuan Seiboth, E. J. Noronha, J. Harding, H. C. Smith, J. J. Jacob, M. Yrissary, S. Moronaka, J. Yanagiya, T. Urabe, Y. Kida, K. Tashiro, M. Akaboshi, T. Hara, N. Maeda, S. Kato and P. Miller.

Per *Empress of China*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mrs. John Lowrie, Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Smart, Mrs. Fuschling and two children, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Fulford and child, Messrs. R. H. Robertson, T. O. B. Harman, J. C. H. Brown and Ralph J. McCord; for Nagasaki, Miss Ethel Armstrong and Mr. Max List; for Yokohama, Mrs. P. S. Bonus, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Yanes, Miss Stewart Hogg, Capt. B. L. Stevenson, Messrs. J. Smith and J. T. Kane; for San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Harrington and child, Dr. H. J. Wats n, U.S.A., Rev. Albert Bealer and Mr. J. M. Schultheis; for New York, Mr. Louis G. Seligman; for London, Capt. D. Clapham and Mr. Theo Fuchs.

Per *Airlie*, for Sydney, from Hongkong, Miss Taylor, Messrs. Smithers and McMaster; from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Bassett Hull and Mr. Minnett.

Per *Loongsang*, for Manila, Messrs. A. Whippley, U.S.A., A. Riebe, E. J. Gibbons, J. M. Mussen, G. D. Seymour, Mark Winchester and Gifford Pinchot.

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